PRESENTED BY

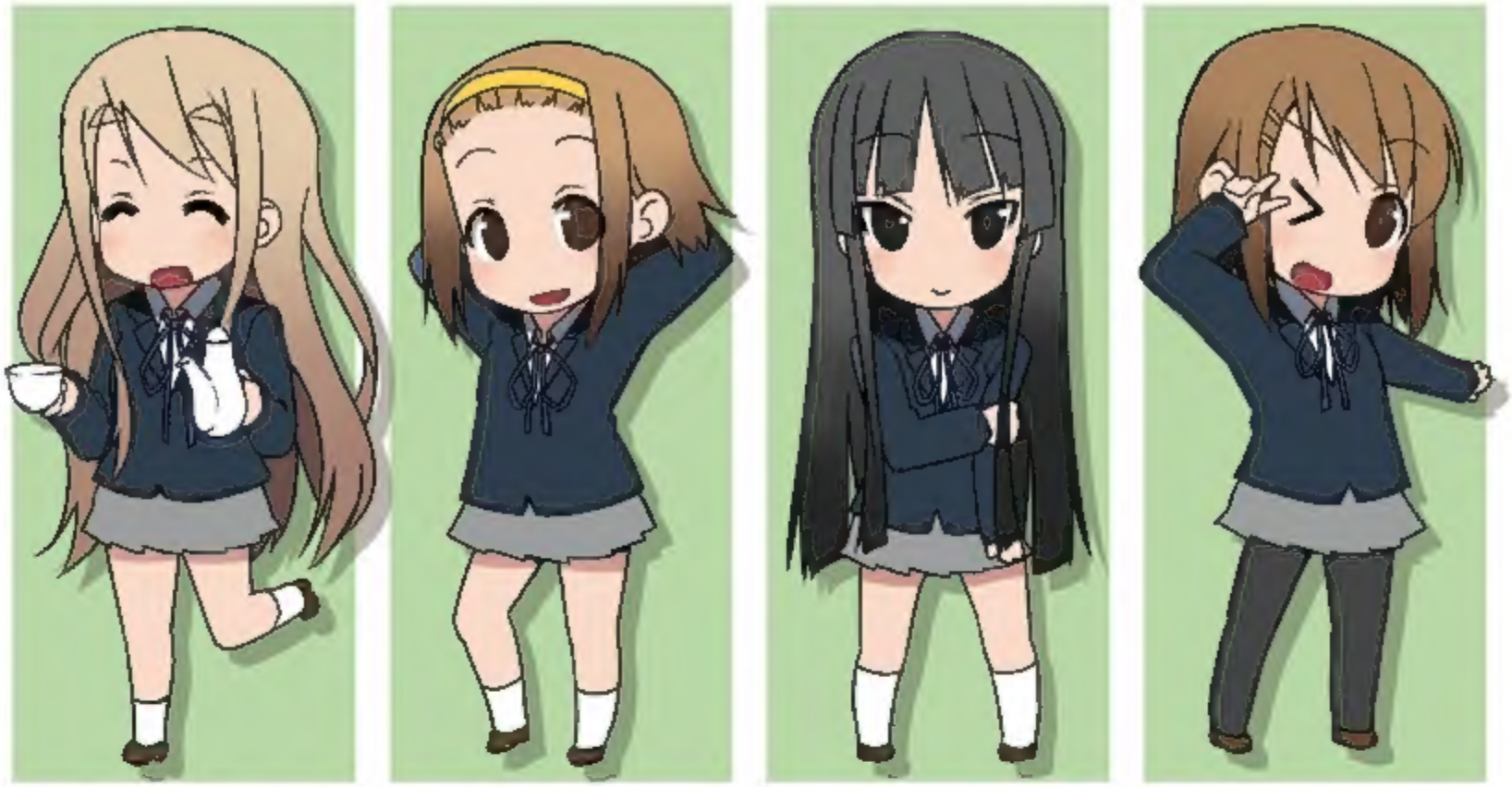
kakifly

2

K-ON!

PRESENTED BY

kakifly



TSUMUGI KOTOBUKI
KEYBOARD

RITSU TAINAKA
DRUMS

MIO AKIYAMA
BASS

YUI HIRASAWA
GUITAR

C H A R A C T E R S

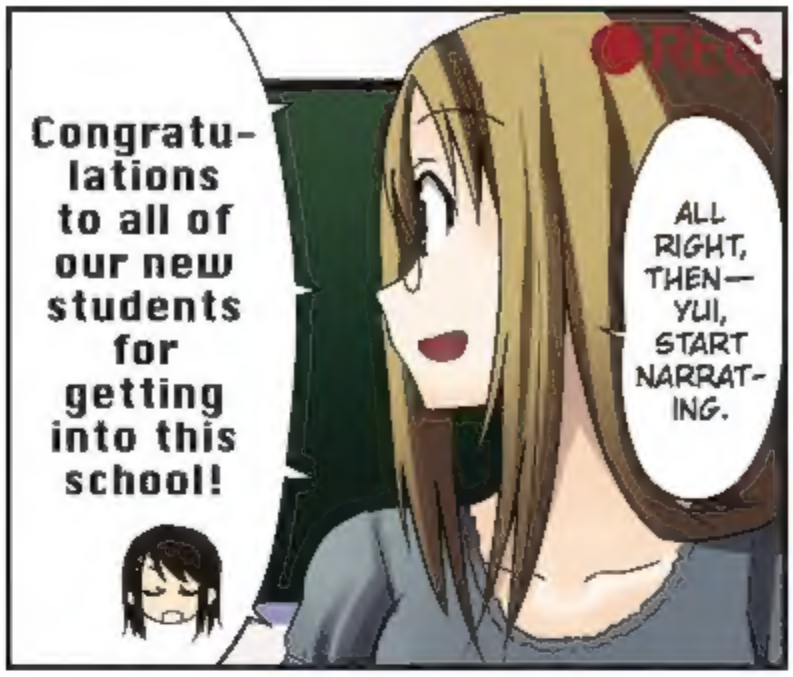
NODOKA MANABE
YUI'S FRIEND

SAWAKO YAMANAKA
TEACHER

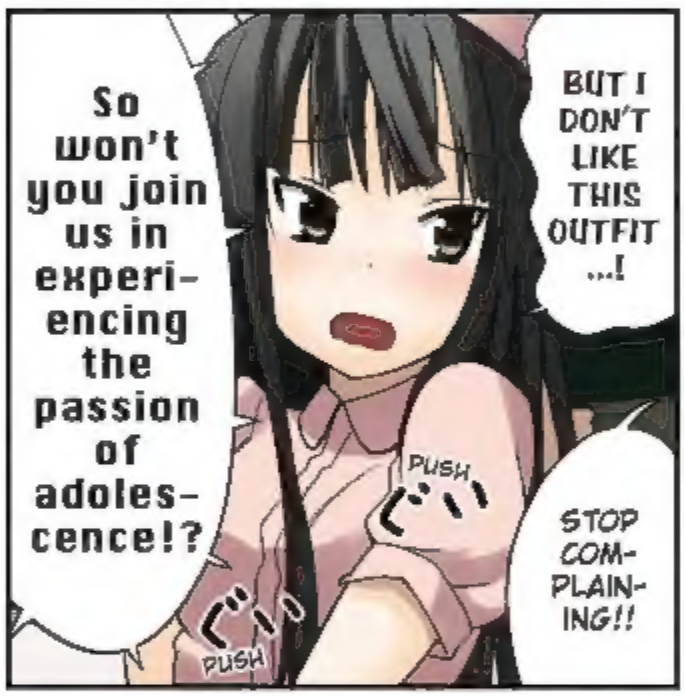
UI HIRASAWA
YUI'S YOUNGER SISTER

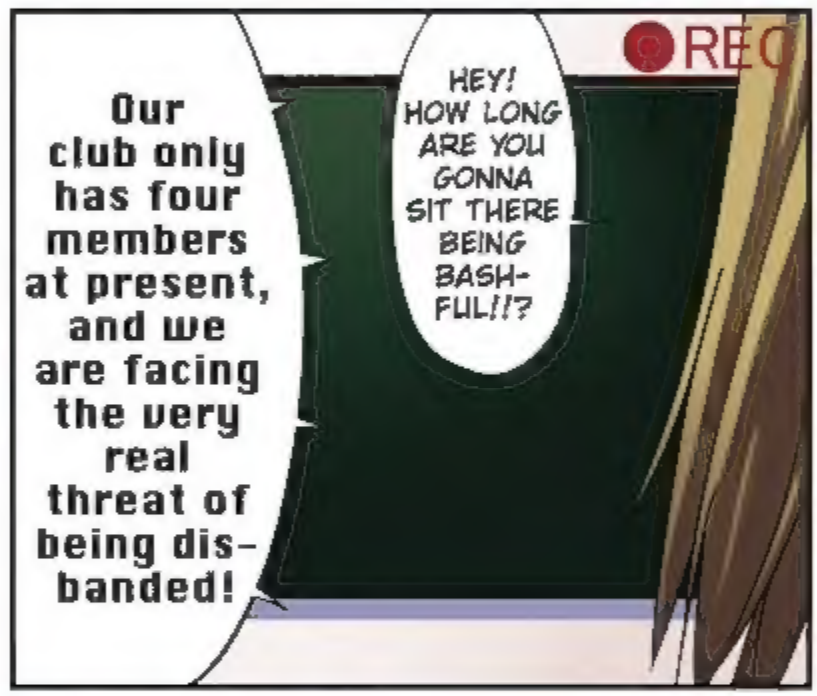
AZUSA NAKANO
NEW STUDENT

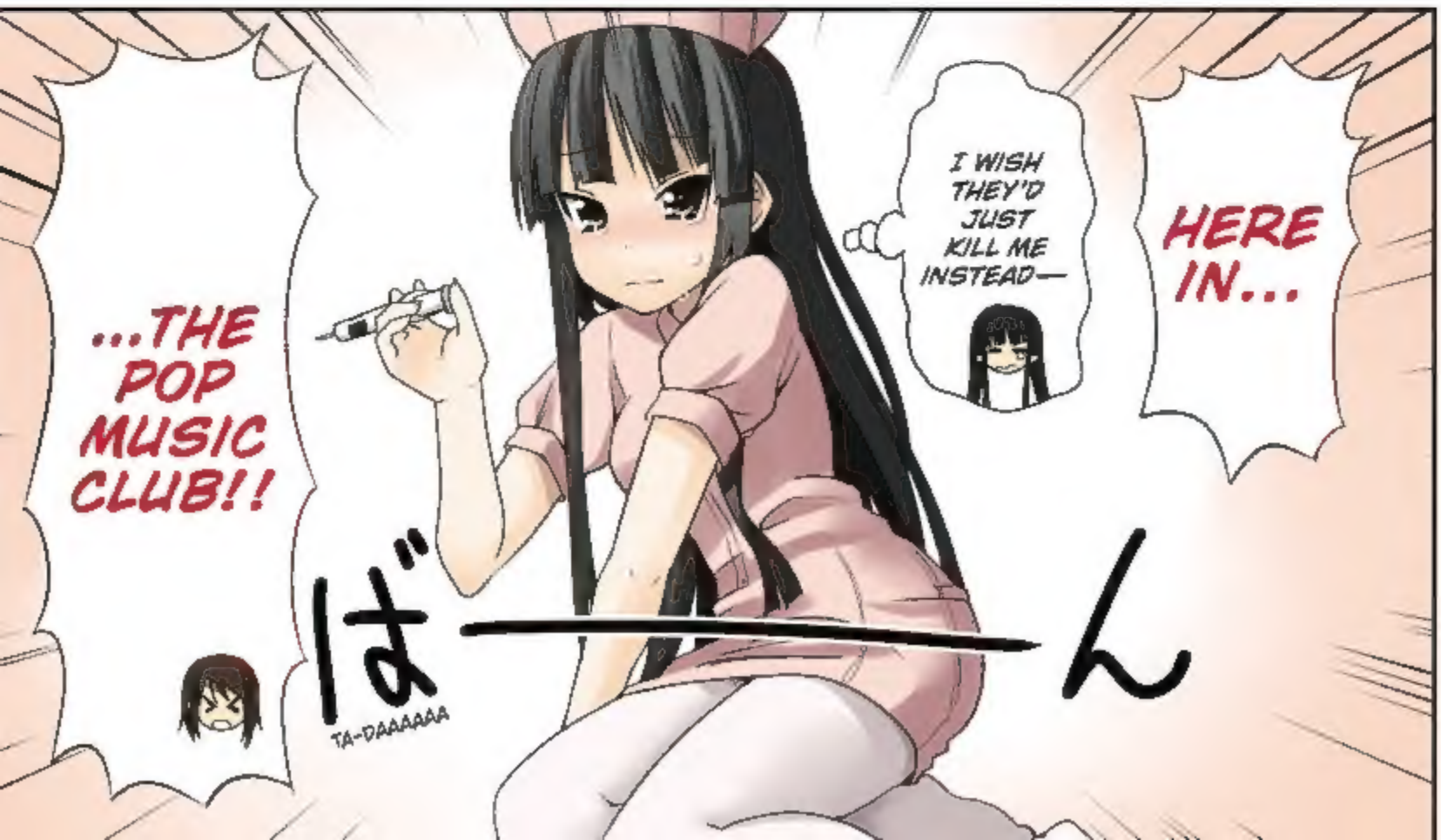
K-ON! CHARACTER INTRO kakifly


Congratu-
lations
to all of
our new
students
for
getting
into this
school!
ALL
RIGHT,
THEN—
YUI,
START
NARRAT-
ING.

REC
ARE
WE
GOOD?
WE'RE
RECORDING
JUST FIIIINE.


So
won't
you join
us in
experi-
encing
the
passion
of
adoles-
cence!?
BUT I
DON'T
LIKE
THIS
OUTFIT
...!
PUSH
PUSH
STOP
COM-
PLAIN-
ING!!


REC
Our
club only
has four
members
at present,
and we
are facing
the very
real
threat of
being dis-
banded!
HEY!
HOW LONG
ARE YOU
GONNA
SIT THERE
BEING
BASH-
FUL!!?


...THE
POP
MUSIC
CLUB!!
I WISH
THEY'D
JUST
KILL ME
INSTEAD—
HERE
IN...
TA-DAAAAAA

CUUU-UUUT!!

CUT! CUT!!

パコン SMACK

HEY, MISS DIRTY-OLD-MAN! REIN IT IN!!

THAT'S TRUE... WE MIGHT NEED TO UP THE EXPOSURE FACTOR...

NOT ONE THING ABOUT THIS SETUP SAYS "POP MUSIC CLUB"!!

JUST WHAT KIND OF CLUB ARE WE TRYING TO INTRO-DUCE HERE!!?

HUFF! HUFF! ぽ

WHAP か

YOU TOO, MUGI-CHAN! STOP BEING SO GIDDY ABOUT FILMING THIS!

THAT'S WHAT MAKES IT SUCH A DIRTY-MINDED IDEA.

YEAH, WHATEVER! I'M ALWAYS MAJORLY SERIOUS!

I SWEAR...WHEN SAWA-CHAN SAID WE SHOULD MAKE A VIDEO INTRODUCTION FOR THE POP MUSIC CLUB, I ACTUALLY THOUGHT SHE WAS COMING UP WITH A SERIOUS IDEA FOR A CHANGE, BUT THIS...

HWUM?

YUI, GO ON AND PLAY SOMETHING FOR THE CAMERA.

OR AT LEAST JOIN THE CONVERSATION, FOR PETE'S SAKE.

ばちっ SPARKLE

JUST PLAY AL-READY !!

ぬり RUB

ぬり RUB

サッ BRUSH

サッ BRUSH

HAND MIRROR

GEEZ... I DON'T KNOW HOW WE'RE EVER GONNA GET ANY NEW MEMBERS AT THIS RATE...

ボヨヨ～～ン

BYANG BYANG

BYANG

AH, JUN-CHAN!!

桜が丘高校

入学式

AH HA HA!

CHECK IT OUT— MY UNIFORM FITS ME LIKE A TENT.

SIGN: SAKURAGAOKA HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION CEREMONY

I... I SEE...

I STILL HAVEN'T DECIDED FOR SURE, BUT I THINK I'M GONNA PASS ON THE POP MUSIC CLUB.

HMMM...

BY THE WAY, JUN-CHAN, WHICH CLUB DID YOU FINALLY DECIDE TO JOIN?

YEP !!

WOW... SHE'S SO TINY AND CUTE...

OH YEAH? SO YOU'RE GONNA JOIN THE POP MUSIC CLUB, AZUSA-CHAN?

YEAH. HER BIG SISTER'S IN IT.

UM... DO YOU GUYS KNOW SOME-THING ABOUT THE POP MUSIC CLUB?

AH HA HA...

PERK

...HOLY COW. SOMEONE ACTUALLY WANTS TO JOIN THE POP MUSIC CLUB...

AWE-SOME !!

がばっ

CRAB

SHE... SHE PLAYS GUI-TAR...

REALLY!? WHICH INSTRU-MENT DOES YOUR BIG SISTER PLAY?

SHE'S REALLY GLAMOR-IZING YOU, ONEE-CHAN —!!

THE POP MUSIC CLUB AT THIS SCHOOL MUST BE REALLY ADVANCED AND HARD-CORE...

I GOT A CHANCE TO LISTEN TO A RECORDING OF THEIR PERFORMANCE FROM THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL LAST YEAR...

きらきら〜ん♡

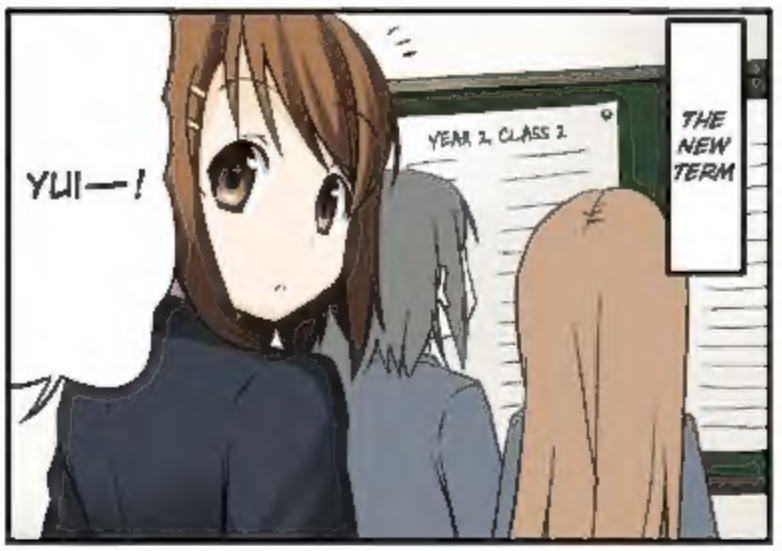
SHIMMER

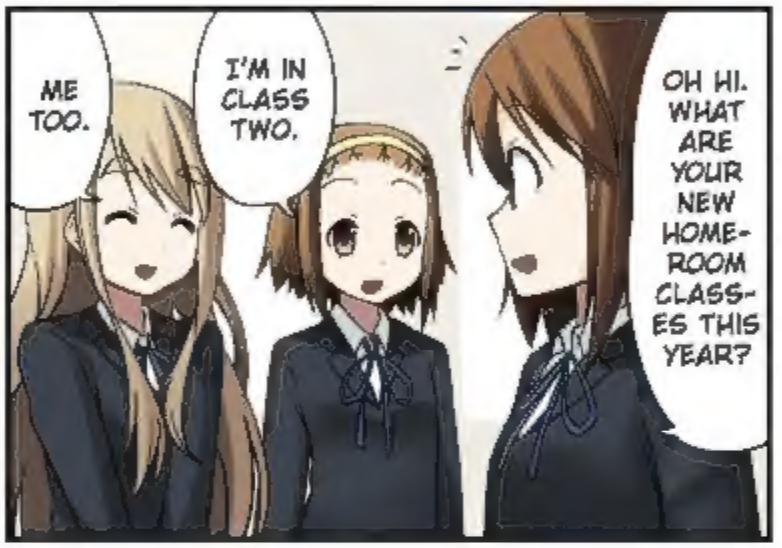
...AND THE GUITAR PARTS WERE SO GOOD THAT I TOTALLY MADE HER MY NEW IDOL! ♡

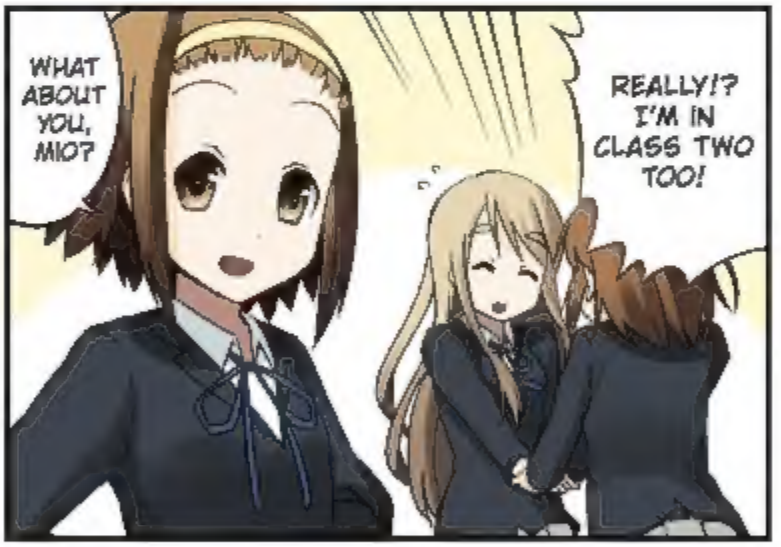
NOT AGAIN !!

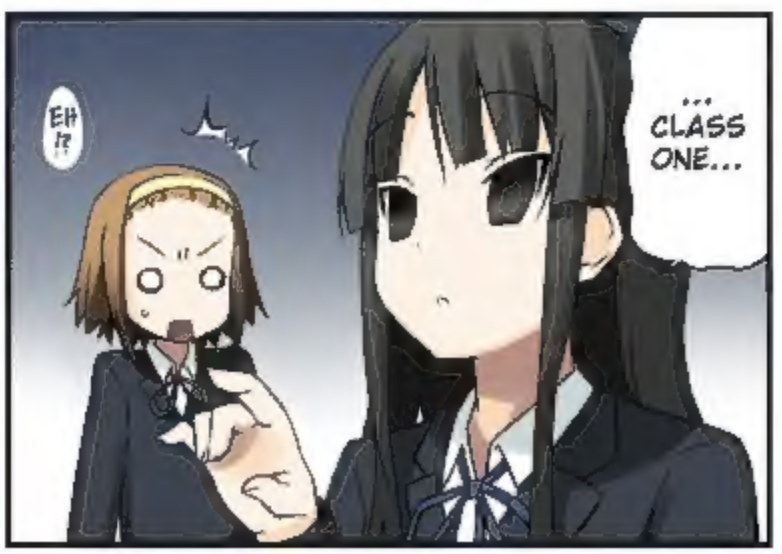
WHAT'S THE FINGERING FOR A C-CHORD AGAIN?

MEAN-WHILE, THE GIRL IN QUES-TION...


YUI—!
YEAR 2, CLASS 2
THE NEW TERM


ME TOO.
I'M IN CLASS TWO.
OH HI. WHAT ARE YOUR NEW HOME-ROOM CLASS-ES THIS YEAR?


WHAT ABOUT YOU, MIO?
REALLY!? I'M IN CLASS TWO TOO!


EH!?
... CLASS ONE...

SEE YA

WHAT? WHAT'S WRONG? WHY ARE YOU GUYS LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?

WHAT ON EARTH SHOULD WE SAY TO HER...?

MIO!

ALL ALONE

WHAT AM I, IN GRADE SCHOOL?

IF YOU EVER GET LONELY, YOU KNOW YOU CAN ALWAYS COME OVER TO OUR CLASSROOM FOR A VISIT, OKAY?

...AND I WAS GETTING WORRIED I MIGHT NOT KNOW ANYONE IN THIS CLASS.

I'M SO GLAD! I WOUND UP IN A DIFFERENT CLASS FROM YUI THIS TIME...

I MEAN, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO LOOK AT MY HOMEWORK ANYMORE, RIGHT?

I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT YOU, RITSU. ARE YOU GONNA BE OKAY IF WE'RE NOT IN THE SAME CLASS?

YES, LET'S !!

I HOPE WE CAN BE FRIENDS FOR THE YEA—

CLENCH

TCH.

HEH HEH!! BUT NOW I'VE GOT MUGI ON MY SIDE!

YEP. SHE SURE DOES.

UI-CHAN, YOUR BIG SISTER GOES TO THIS SCHOOL TOO, DOESN'T SHE?

I MADE A NEW "MEMBERS WANTED" FLYER FOR THE CLUB!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE IN A ROCK BAND WITH US?

NO MUSICAL EXPERIENCE NECESSARY COME JOIN THE POP MUSIC CLUB ANYTIME!

AND SPEAK OF THE DEVIL ...

AH, UUUUI!

HRMM... I DUNNO. IT LOOKS KINDA PLAIN...

ガーン SHOCK

KA-BAM

... THEN WE JUST NEED TO ADD SOME!

IF IT LACKS OOMPH ...

GYAAAAH!!

ZOOM

AH!

MAYBE THE OPPOSITE EFFECT

MURMUR

HERE YOU GO

FOR THE POP MUSIC CLUB.

MURMUR

OH, RIGHT.

THAT REMINDS ME—WE'RE DOING FOUR SONGS TODAY, SO WHAT ABOUT THE SONG ORDER?

はぁ PANT

はぁ PANT

HRMM... WE REALLY COULDN'T GET THAT MANY PEOPLE TO TAKE OUR FLYERS...

THANKS.

I WROTE THEM ALL OUT ON THESE PIECES OF PAPER, SO JUST STICK THEM TO YOUR MIC OR SPEAKER OR WHER-EVER.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

I GUESS OUR ONLY SHOT NOW IS USING THE CONCERT TO PROMOTE OUR-SELVES.

1 FLUFF-FLUFF TIME

2. RICE AFTER CURRY

3. MY LOVE IS A STAPLER

4. BRUSH PEN, ~BALLPOINT PEN~

じー STARE

HUH?

...I SEE YOUR LYRICAL SENSE IS AS "UNIQUE" AS ALWAYS, MIO.

OKAY, EVERY-ONE! LET'S DO THE BEST WE CAN AT THIS CON-CERT!!

I WENT AHEAD AND MADE SOME CLOTHES FOR THE CONCER—

Next up, we have a club introduction and performance by the Pop Music Club.

OH, THAT'S US.

...UUU-UGH...

MURMUR

さわ

MURMUR

さわ

YOOOO!!

LET'S GO DO OUR BEST, GUYS!!

WELL, OF COURSE. ALL THE NEW STUDENTS ARE HERE...

WOBBLE

RITSU-UUU... THE WHOLE GYM IS FILLED WITH PEOPLE ...!

...I JUST WANNA SAY ONE THING BEFORE YOU GO OUT THERE...

HEY GIRLS ...

I GUESS SHE STILL GETS NERVOUS, EVEN WHEN SHE'S NOT DOING VOCALS.

NO WAY

CAN'T DO IT

NO

WELL, OFF WE GO...

YOUR REGULAR UNIFORMS... THEY WORK BETTER THAN I THOUGHT !!

WHIP

..AND HOW 'BOUT YOU TRY BEING MORE NER-VOUS?

RIT-CHAN! I FOUND A ¥100 COIN ON THE SIDE OF THE STAGE!!

ALL RIGHT!! LET'S GO!!

Hi, everyone! We're the Pop Music Club!

Congratulations to all of our new students for getting into this school!

WHOA...

JA-JANG

YUI'S INTRODUCTION DOES A GOOD JOB OF MAKING EVERYONE FEEL AT EASE.

AH HA HA HA

The first time I heard the name "Pop Music Club," I literally thought it was about popping off some really simple, easy music.

THIS SONG HAS A REALLY HARD OPENING RIFF, BUT YUI'S COMPLETELY ABLE TO PLAY IT NOW.

...HOWEVER...

HM?

Oh, but later on, Sawa-chan told me that castanets are actually pretty hard to play.

I was like, "It's probably good enough if I can play the castanets or something," so I just joined the club without thinking too much about it. So what I'm trying to say is, all of you should feel free to do the same and join our club on a silly whim!

YAMMER

YAMMER

YOU'RE FORGETTING TO SING, YUI—!!

I TOTALLY GOT SWEPT UP IN MY OWN PERFORMANCE

AH!!

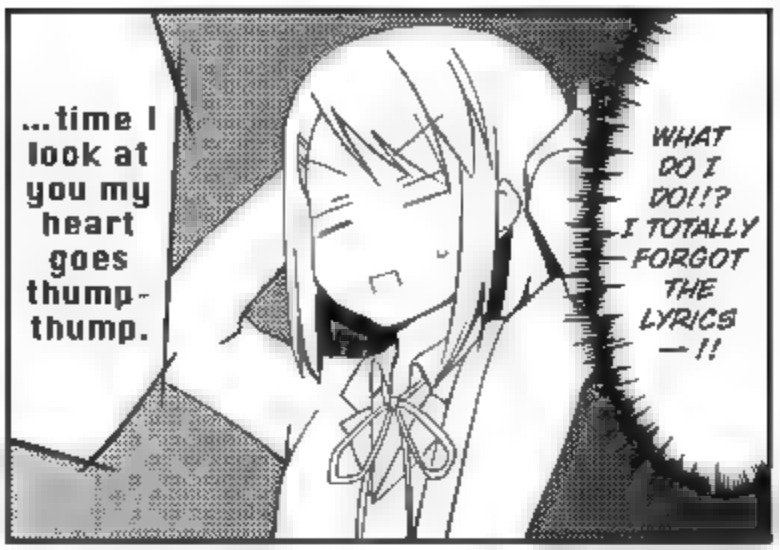
WOULD YA START THE DARN SHOW!?

OW!!

KER-CLONK

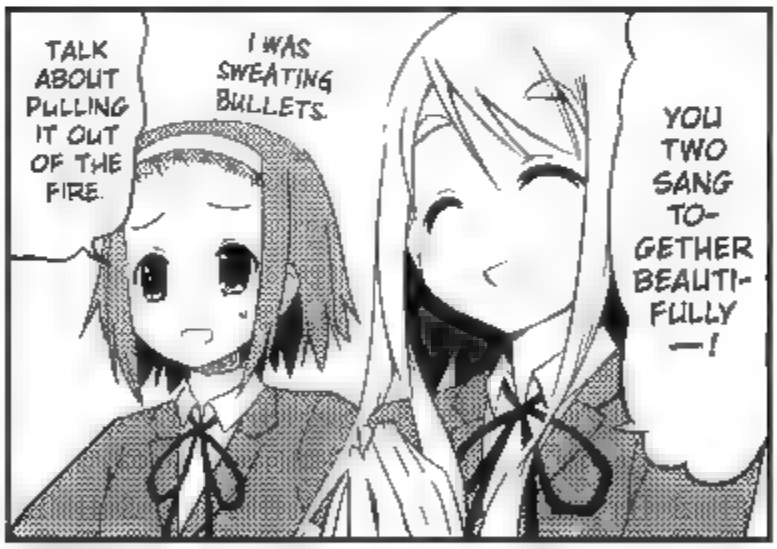
Oh, by the way, "Sawa-chan" is the nickname we gave to our faculty adviser. Her real na

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
And that was the Pop Music Club. Next up, we have the wind ensemble...


...time I look at you my heart goes thump-thump.
WHAT DO I DO!? I TOTALLY FORGOT THE LYRICS —!!

OOOH, MIO-CHAN! THANK YOU—!

My feelings [illegible] like a marsh-mallow fluff-fluff.
HURRY UP AND SING!
HUH?


TALK ABOUT PULLING IT OUT OF THE FIRE.
I WAS SWEATING BULLETS.
YOU TWO SANG TO-GETHER BEAUTI-FULLY —!

I see your face from the side, you're always so determined. But you never notice me, no matter how long I stare.

N-NEVER MIND!
SPECIAL PRACTICE?
I GUESS IT'S A GOOD THING YOU'VE BEEN DOING ALL THAT SPECIAL PRACTICE IN SECRET, HUH?

WOWwww
If only we were inside a dream, I could close the distance between us.

DON'T GO TALKING ABOUT ABDUC-TION.

IF IT'S COME TO THIS, WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE LEFT BUT TO ABDUCT UI-CHAN!

UM...

AFTER SCHOOL

UNNNGH... NO ONE'S COMING BY...

I WAS HOPING TO JOIN THE CLUB IF I COULD ...

おず TIMID

IS THIS THE POP MUSIC CLUB?

おず TIMID

I GUESS NO ONE REALLY WANTS TO BE IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB AFTER ALL...?

AND I THOUGHT THE CONCERT WENT SO WELL!

UM... YOU GUYS...

.....
.....

GYAAAAAAH!?

WE GOT ONE—!!

びくっ JUMP

じ

STAAAAARE...

EVEN THE ONES WHO WANT TO COME IN PROBABLY WON'T IF YOU KEEP OGLING THEM LIKE THAT.

THE POP MUSIC CLUB FINALLY RECEIVES A LONG-AWAITED VISITOR—SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO JOIN!

COME IN! HAVE A SEAT, HAVE A SEAT.

WEL-COME TO THE POP MUSIC CLUB!

UM.. I, UH..

SO, WHAT IN-STRUMENT DO YOU PLAY?

UM.. IT'S NA-KAN—

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

CALM DOWN, YOU GUYS.

WHAT KINDS OF FOODS DO YOU LIKE?

WHAT'S YOUR BLOOD TYPE?

WHEN'S YOUR BIRTHDAY?

I, UH...UM, WELL

I'M STILL JUST A BEGINNER, SO I'M NOT ANY GOOD...

IT'S HEAVY!

HERE, HERE'S A GUITAR.

FOR STARTERS, WHY DON'T YOU JUST TRY PLAYING US SOMETHING?

SO, UM... MY NAME IS AZUSA NAKANO AND I'M A FIRST YEAR, CLASS TWO.

AS FOR MY INSTRUMENT, I PLAY A LITTLE BIT OF GUITAR ...

WELL, I SEE YOU WASTE NO TIME PLAYING UP THE "SENPAI" ROLE!

THUMP

NOT TO WORRY! I'LL TEACH YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW!

WHOA, THE SAME AS YUI!

I LOOK FORWARD TO LEARNING FROM YOU, YUI-SENPAI.

JALANNNG

ALL RIGHT, THEN...

TWINGE

"YUI-SENPAI"...

...REALLY GOOD!!

WAY BETTER THAN ME...!

SHE'S ...

HEY, EARTH TO YUI.

SENPAI... SENPAI

HEY, HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN TO KEEP PLAYING THE BIG SHOT HERE?

OW

UMM... EH?

SILENCE

YOU KNOW WHAT, I'D REALLY LOVE TO HEAR YOU PLAY GUITAR AGAIN, YUI-SENPAI!

EH !?

I GUESS MY PLAYING MUST'VE BEEN REALLY BAD...

WHAT DO I DO? EVERY-THING SUDDENLY GOT KINDA AWKWARD ...

UMMM ...

... WELL, I, UH...

UH, NO... THAT'S NOT IT AT ALL...

I'M SO SORRY. I GUESS I SOUNDED REALLY BAD AFTER ALL...

...IT SEEMS I THREW OUT MY BACK AT THE CONCERT, SO I THINK WE SHOULD SAVE IT FOR NEXT TIME!

SO LAME...

EH—!?

I .. I CAN SEE YOU'VE STILL GOT A LONG WAY TO GO!

OKAY!

IN THAT CASE, WE'VE GOT YOUR CLUB APPLI-CATION FORM, SO YOU CAN JOIN US FROM TOMOR-ROW ON, OKAY?

AAAH!

ENOUGH FROM YOU NOW STEP ASIDE.

OKAY, THEN. I'LL BE GOING NOW.

YES!

UH...AT ANY RATE, IT'S OKAY IF WE GO AHEAD AND ASSUME YOU'RE JOINING THE CLUB, RIGHT?

AND I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO BEING PART OF THE CLUB!

I WAS JUST SO MOVED WHEN I HEARD YOU GUYS PLAYING AT THE WELCOME RECEP-TION CONCERT!

YOU PRAC-TICE LIKE HELL.

WHA... WHAT DO I DO...?

UUUGH... THE ENTHU-SIASM'S BLINDING ME. I CAN'T LOOK AT IT HEAD-ON...

OH YEAH, NO PROB-LEM!

UH...UM, ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY TO BE DOING STUFF LIKE THIS IN THE MUSIC ROOM?

THE NEXT DAY

HI EVERY-ONE!

OH NO! THE TEACH-ER...!

AH!

YEAH, I JUST COULDN'T WAIT FOR SCHOOL TO GET OUT SO I COULD COME HERE!

WHOA, YOU'RE ALL GUNG-HO.

UHH... UM, WE'RE JUST, UH...

スタスタ STRIDE STRIDE

TIME TO START PRAC-TICING, HUH?

ALL RIGHT, THEN. I GUESS IT'S TIME...

EHH!?

SURE THING.

I'LL HAVE TEA WITH MILK.

EHH!?

GO ON AND HAVE A CUP, AZUSA-CHAN

...FOR US TO HAVE A LITTLE TEA.

MAYBE THIS IS SOME KIND OF TEST TO SEE IF I HAVE ANY INITIATIVE.

AHA!

WHEE

WHEE

THAT'S RIGHT.

SO THIS GIRL'S THE NEW CLUB MEMBER?

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

OKAY, THEN. I'LL JUST GET STARTED HERE...

IT...IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.

I'M SAWAKO YAMANAKA, THE FACULTY ADVISER. NICE TO MEET YOU.

JALANNNG

STARE

EHHH —!?

SHUT THAT THING UP!!

I'M THINKING CAT EARS MIGHT LOOK GOOD ON THIS ONE.

WHAT A PRETTY LADY..

I JUST DON'T FEEL A SENSE OF MOTIVA-TION FROM ANY OF YOU!

SA-SAWA-CHAN!! YOU YUTZ!!

KA-BAM

THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!

OH, COME ON. THE WELCOME RECEPTION CONCERT'S ALREADY OVER AND EVERY-THING...

WELL, THERE'S A RIGHT WAY AND A WRONG WAY TO SAY THINGS!

BUT I JUST WANTED TO DRINK MY TEA IN PEACE ...

YOU GUYS SHOULD GET RID OF THIS ENTIRE TEA SET!

AND I DON'T THINK IT'S RIGHT TO BE USING THE MUSIC ROOM AS YOUR OWN PERSONAL PLAY-HOUSE!

SORRY ABOUT THAT. THIS TEACHER'S A LITTLE OFF.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE TEACHER !!

NO! ANY-THING BUT THE TEA SET!!

WHOA—! SHE SNAPPED !!

I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY-MORE —!!

SORRY FOR FLIPPING OUT ON EVERY-ONE...

NOW, NOW. LET'S JUST CALM DOWN AND—

HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO BE CALM IN THE FACE OF ALL THIS!!?

BUT THERE'S SOME TRUTH IN WHAT YOU SAID, AZUSA.

WE'VE ALL GOT TO START SHOWING MORE MOTIVA-TION HERE.

HUG

TURN

GOOD GIRL... GOOD GIRL...

PET PET

THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S GONNA CALM HER DOWN...

AM I MAKING MYSELF CLEAR!?

YEHHHS.

SHE ACTU-ALLY CALMED DOWN —!?

スタ STEP

スタ STEP

SIGH...

AAR RGH!

I DON'T REALLY WANNA GO TO THE MUSIC ROOM TODAY. I CAUSED SUCH A FUSS LAST TIME...

PEEK そぉー……

THEY'RE NOT EVEN FAZED!!

AH-HA-HA!

AHHHHN

HERE YOU GO, YUI-CHAN

じー

STARE

ACK !!

BOLT

IT'S THE TRUTH, OKAY!?

あセ

PANIC

W-WE WERE JUST GETTING READY TO START PRAC-TICING, OKAY!?

あセ

PANIC

JA-JAAANG

ちゃりら〜ん

JA-DI-DAAAAH

AND THE TEA-SET-REMOVAL SCARE WAS AVERTED

HEH.

Y-YOU'RE SO AWE-SOME —!!

THAT WAS FAST !!

へなへな〜

COLLAPSE

UGH, I JUST CAN'T KEEP UP MY STRENGTH UNLESS I EAT SOME CAKE.

UH...

HMM... I GUESS YOU DIDN'T LIKE IT, THEN.

むぐっ KA-CHOMP

HERE, AZUSA-CHAN, YOU TRY SOME TOO. IT'S REALLY GOOD.

じ——... STARE

OH... NICE FLA—

もぐもぐ CHEW CHEW

ぱぁ——っ GLOW

SHP

OHP!

HM? WHAT WAS THAT?

GRIN にや にや GRIN

しょぼ——— SAD

THIS IS FUN.

SHP

WHAT WAS!?

N-NICE TRY!!

CHOMP

OKAY. BYE-BYE, GIRLS.

SEE YOU LATER, SENSEI.

DON'T DIE ON US.

QUIVER

OOH, I'M SO HAPPY, I COULD JUST DIE RIGHT HERE ..

QUIVER

UUUGH... STARTING TODAY NO MORE TEA TIME IN THE MUSIC ROOM, I GUESS...

SO HOW COME YOU DIDN'T INSIST ON GETTING R.D OF THE TEA SET?

HIYA, EVERY-ONE. PRAC-TICING HARD —?

SLIDE

WELL, IT'S A REAL SHAME I WON'T BE GETTING TO EAT ANY MORE CAKE, BUT I HAVE TO START LIVING UP TO MY ROLE AS A TEACHER!!

YOU'D NEVER KNOW WHICH ONE WAS THE TEACHER ..

OH YEAH?

UH, I .. I JUST THOUGHT IT WASN'T GOOD TO GO AROUND BEING SO NEGATIVE ABOUT EVERY-THING...

WHAT? THEY'RE HERE EATING —!!?

SLUMP

CHEW もぐ CHEW

AH, SENSEI.

OH, I ALMOST FORGOT!

ぽんっ CLAP

SO, AZUSA-CHAN, HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN PLAYING GUITAR?

UM, LESSEE... SINCE I WAS IN THE FOURTH GRADE.

I BROUGHT ALONG A LITTLE PRESENT FOR AZUSA-CHAN.

RUMMAGE RUMMAGE ごそごそ

MY PARENTS USED TO PLAY IN A JAZZ BAND, SO I GUESS IT WAS THEIR INFLUENCE ...

AWE-SOME! YOU'RE A THOR-OUGH-BRED!!

HERE.

ぱんぱかぱーん TA-DA-DA-DAAAA

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO START PLAYING GUITAR, YUI-SENPAI?

ヒラ JUMP

EH!? ME!?

...UM... WHAT IS THIS?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? THEY'RE CAT EARS.

YEAH, I CAN SEE THAT, BUT...

I CAN'T DO IT...I JUST CAN'T TELL HER I ACTUALLY JOINED THE CLUB 'COS I THOUGHT "POP" MUSIC MEANT IT WAS "EASY-TO-PLAY" MUSIC...

?

HOW COULD I NOT !!?

GEEZ... YOU REALLY EMBARRASS EASILY, DON'T YOU?

WHAT AM I SUP-POSED TO DO WITH THEM?

UH, UM...?

HUH?

YOU'D ALL BE EMBAR-RASSED TOO, WOULDN'T YOU, SENPAIS?

JUMP

HEH HEH HEH ...

LOOK.

APPAR-ENTLY HOT

KYAAAAH!!

GRAB

YOU'RE SUP-POSED TO DO THIS WITH 'EM—!!

WHAT THE...? AM I THE WEIRD ONE HERE ...?

KYA! KYA!

HUFF! HUFF!

RITUAL FOR WHAT!?

DON'T SWEAT IT, AZUSA. THINK OF IT AS A POP MUSIC CLUB RITUAL OF SORTS.

すりすり
SNUGGLE

OOOOH, AZUSA-CHAN, YOU'RE SO CUTE... ☆

UGH ...

OKAY. YOU NEXT, AZUSA.

SAY "MEOW" FOR ME. GO ON, "MEOW" ...

バーン
TA-DAA

... MEOW ...?

MM. .

WOW... THEY LOOK REALLY GOOD ON YOU!!

IT'S DECID-ED— FROM NOW ON, YOUR NICK-NAME IS "AZU-MEOW"!!

AH!! I CAN'T BELIEVE I JUST DID THAT!!

THIS IS MY WEL-COME !?

WEL-COME TO THE POP MUSIC CLUB!!

AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

OH, I FORGOT SOMETHING IN THE MUSIC ROOM.

GO ON WITHOUT ME.

I AM DEFINITELY NOT WEARING THAT!!

YOU'LL BE A CAT-EARED MAID

NEXT WE HAVE THE OUTFIT!!

THERE IT IS, I FOUND IT...

MY PENCIL BOX

...HM?

AZUSA IS SO CUTE

STARE

SECRETLY

AH!?

I'M RELIEVED THAT SAWAKO'S PICKING ON AZUSA NOW INSTEAD OF ME...

...BUT...

L-LOOK, A MUSTACHE!!

YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ANYBODY.

WHAT ARE YOU JABBERING ON ABOUT BACK THERE?

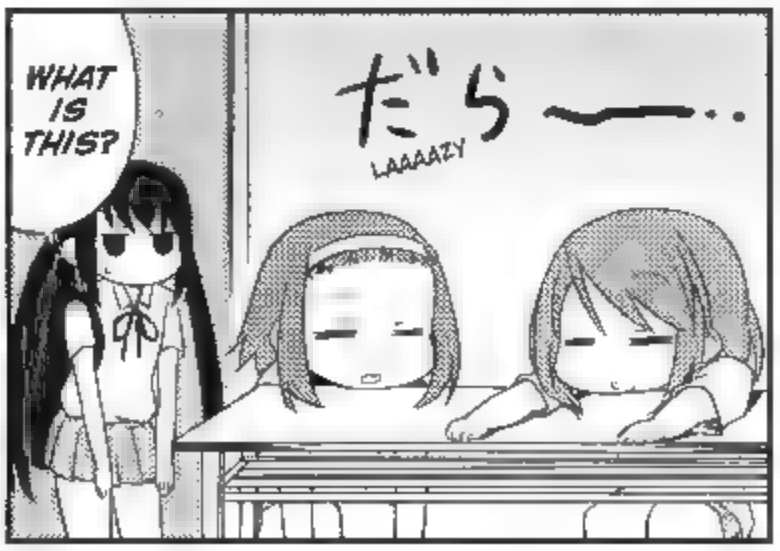
...WHY DO I FEEL SO LONELY ALL OF A SUDDEN...?

YEAH, I THINK YOU'D BETTER NOT, SENSEI.
THEY'D BE TOO TIGHT.
MAYBE I SHOULD TRY THESE CAT EARS ON MYSELF.

ポン
PAT

SO I JOINED, BUT. .
. . . .

HELLO.
MY NAME IS AZUSA NAKANO, AND I JUST STARTED SCHOOL HERE THIS YEAR.


WHAT IS THIS?
だら～～..
LAAAAZY

I WAS SO IM-PRESSED BY THE POP MUSIC CLUB'S PERFOR-MANCE AT THE NEW STUDENT WELCOME RECEP-TION ..
THAT I DECID-ED TO JOIN THE POP MUSIC CLUB MY-SELF.

AH...

HERE THERE'S CAKE ON YOUR FACE

MIO-SENPAI IS SO GOOD AT PLAYING... I WONDER WHY SHE STAYS IN A LAZY-ASS CLUB LIKE THIS, ANYWAY.

AH, MIO-SENPAI.

OH HI, AZUSA.

MIO-SENPAI, YOU DON'T PLAY IN ANY BANDS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL OR ANY-THING?

HAVE YOU ADJUSTED TO THE POP MUSIC CLUB YET?

SO?

UH!

NO, BUT A BAND OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL DOES SOUND KINDA FUN.

AH...

UM, WELL... I'M STILL NOT SURE HOW I FEEL ABOUT THE RELAXED ATMOS-PHERE HERE...

MAYBE THEY HAVE SOME-THING ON HER...

AAAACK!!

I HAVE SCHOOL FESTIVAL PICTURES.

AHH, ARE YOU SURE YOU WANNA BE SAYING THAT ...?

BUT I DON'T REALLY WANNA GET USED TO IT...

PAT

DON'T WORRY, AZUSA! YOU'LL GET USED TO IT IN NO TIME!

MY HANDS ARE BIGGER THAN YOURS..

STICK ぴた

CRUMPLE ぐしゃ

UH—!

ALL... ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE! LET'S GET SOME PRACTICE IN!!

CRUMPLE ぐしゃ

HOLD ON— ARE MY HANDS REALLY BIG OR SOME-THING...?

BIGGER THAN YOURS TOO.

STICK ぴた

AZU-MEOW, YOUR GUITAR'S REALLY CUTE.

SHOCK が——ん

OH, BUT YOUR HANDS ARE BIGGER THAN MINE, MIO-CHAN.

SEE?

WELL, I HAVE SMALL HANDS, SO I CAN'T PLAY UNLESS I USE A GUITAR WITH A THIN NECK.

U-UH, BUT WAIT, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEANT, MIO-CHAN— YOUR HANDS ARE THE REALLY PRETTY, LONG AND SLENDER KIND!!

"NOT FAIR" !?

THAT'S NOT FAIR!!

OKAY THEN, I'LL GO FIRST.

MAYBE IT'D BE BETTER IF WE LISTENED TO EACH OF YOU PLAY FIRST AND THEN DECIDED...

NOW THAT WE HAVE BOTH YUI AND AZUSA ON GUITAR, WE CAN PLAY A BROADER RANGE OF MUSIC.

WOW, AZUSA, YOU'RE EVERY BIT AS GOOD AS WE THOUGHT!

NOW IT'S YUI'S TURN.

SO WHICH ONE OF YOU IS GONNA BE LEAD GUITAR?

...SHEESH. JUST ADMIT SHE'S BETTER AND BE DONE WITH IT.

TH-THAT OLD MALADY OF MINE'S ACTING UP AGAIN ...

ME! ME! I'M GONNA DO IT!!

OF COURSE THE OLDER STUDENT SHOULD BE THE ONE TO—

YOU USED IT WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING WHAT IT MEANT?

?

BY THE WAY, WHAT'S A "MALADY" ANYWAY?

...I WONDER WHERE ALL THAT SELF-CONFI-DENCE COMES FROM.

HMM!

HOW'D SHE MANAGE IT WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING WHAT MUTE OR VIBRATO S...?
チャカ
SHUK
チャカ
SHUK

YOU'RE QUICK TO CHANGE YOUR TUNE!!
AZU-MEOW! PLEASE BE MY GUITAR TEACHER !!
GRAB

WHAT? WAIT, YOU'RE DOING A MUTE RIGHT NOW...

OKAY, MUTE RIGHT THERE... AND ON THE LAST PHRASE, YOU MIGHT WANNA USE SOME VIBRATO ...
ジャカ
JANK
ジャカ
JANK

A "MUTE" IS WHEN YOU LIGHTLY TOUCH YOUR FINGERING HAND TO THE STRINGS AS YOU STRUM IN ORDER TO MUFFLE THE NOTES. IT'S AN ADVANCED PERFORMANCE TECHNIQUE
NOTE FROM SAWA-CHAN
THIS IS MY ONLY APPEARANCE IN THIS CHAPTER!
OH, SO YOU CALL THIS A "MUTE," HUH?

HUH !?
"MUTE"? "VIBRATO"? WHAT ARE THOSE?

I CAN DEFI-NITELY SEE THAT.
YUI'S THE TYPE WHO NEVER READS THE MANUAL WHEN SHE BUYS A NEW GAME...

I KNOW, BUT DESPITE WHAT YOU THINK, SHE'S BEEN PLAYING WITH US FOR A YEAR NOW...

AZUSA, A LITTLE EARLIER YOU ASKED ME WHY I DON'T PLAY IN A BAND OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL, RIGHT?

JA-JAAANG

WELL, I GUESS I JUST FEEL LIKE I HAVE THE MOST FUN BEING IN A BAND WITH THESE GUYS.

YUI-SENPAI HARDLY KNOWS ANY MUSICAL TERMI-NOLOGY AT ALL...

...BUT, YOU KNOW, THOSE MOMENTS ARE JUST AS NEC-ESSARY.

I MEAN, WE DRINK A LOT OF TEA AND LOUNGE AROUND BEING LAZY AND STUFF...

...AND RITSU-SENPAI TENDS TO RUSH ON THE DRUMS...

MAYBE ...

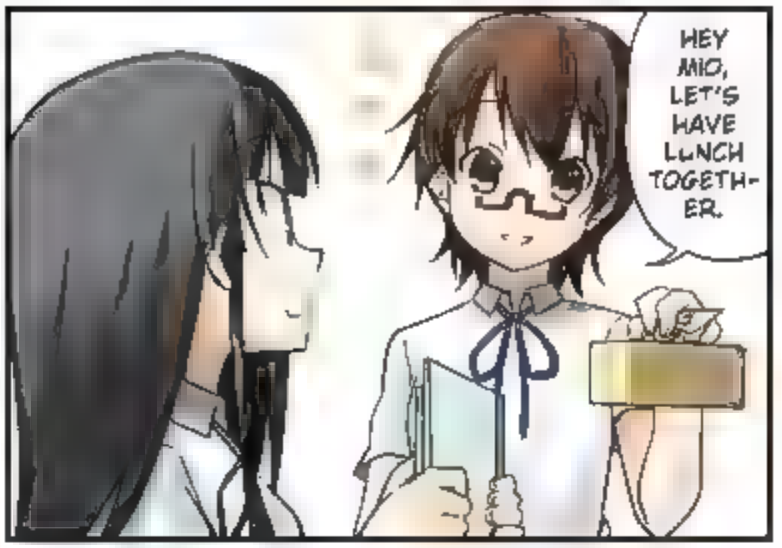
... REALLY?

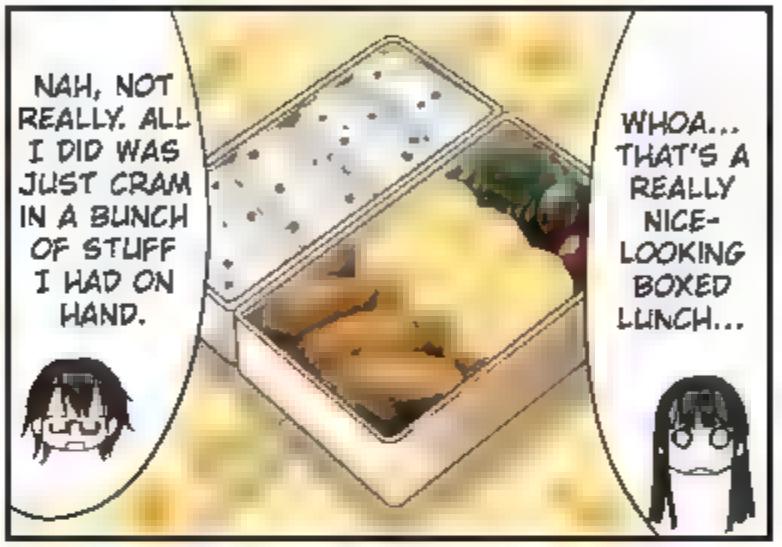
SO TIRED..

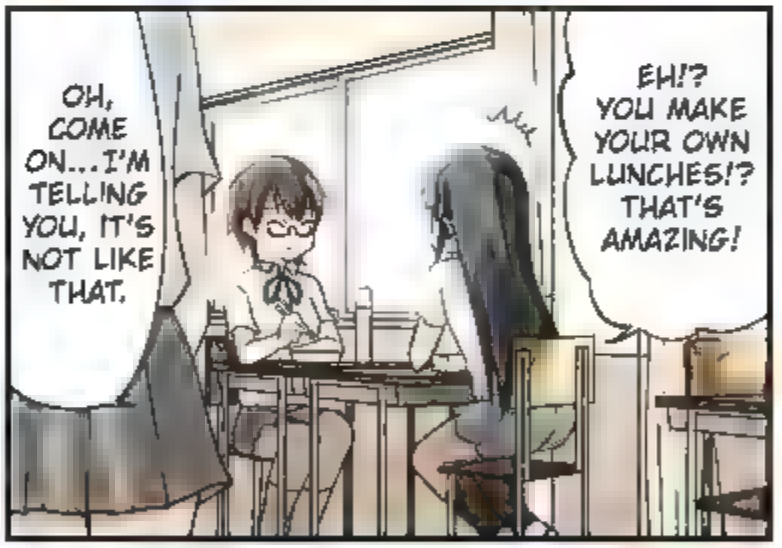
だ～ら～ LAZY

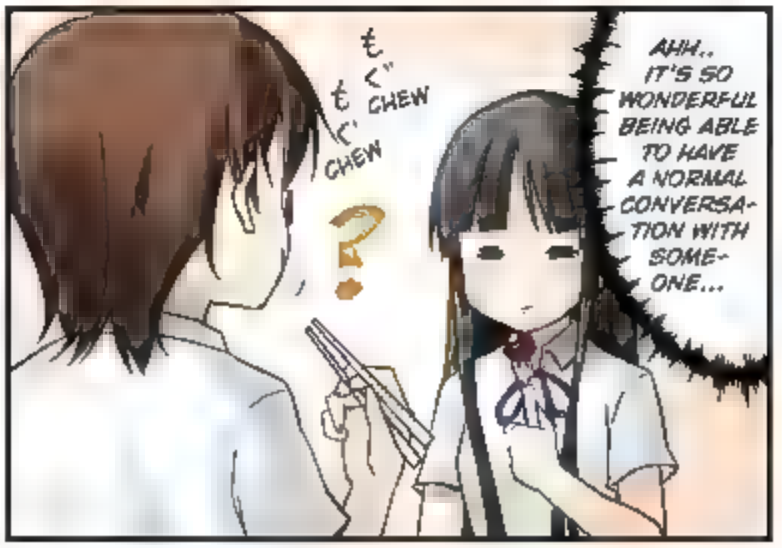
...SO HOW ON EARTH DO THE FOUR OF THEM MANAGE TO PLAY SUCH GREAT MUSIC TOGETH-ER...!?

K-ON!


HEY MIO, LET'S HAVE LUNCH TOGETH-ER.


NAH, NOT REALLY. ALL I DID WAS JUST CRAM IN A BUNCH OF STUFF I HAD ON HAND.
WHOA... THAT'S A REALLY NICE-LOOKING BOXED LUNCH...


OH, COME ON... I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
EH!? YOU MAKE YOUR OWN LUNCHES!? THAT'S AMAZING!


もぐもぐ CHEW CHEW
?
AHH.. IT'S SO WONDERFUL BEING ABLE TO HAVE A NORMAL CONVERSA-TION WITH SOME-ONE...

.....

HOW ARE THINGS IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB? IS YUI GETTING ALONG OKAY?

HMMM... DEFINITELY SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS GOING ON OVER THERE...

HEY RIT-CHAN, THOSE TWO LOOK LIKE THEY'RE HAVING SOMETHING OF AN INTIMATE MOMENT.

WELL, SHE LEARNS ONE THING AND THEN FORGETS SOMETHING ELSE. SHE'S A HANDFUL.

GYAAAH!!

CHARGE!!

EXACTLY!!

OH, THAT'S HER, ALL RIGHT. BUT ONCE SHE GETS STARTED ON SOMETHING, SHE'LL RUN WITH IT TO AN AMAZING DEGREE.

SO MUCH FOR THE SOOTHING MOMENT

ALL WE'RE DOING IS EATING LUNCH.

WELL, AREN'T THE TWO OF YOU GETTING ALONG SWIMMINGLY, HMM?

ホロー... TEARY

I'M SO GLAD I FINALLY FOUND SOMEONE TO SHARE MY STRUGGLES WITH...

WHOA, GOOD FOR YOU, YUI!

DEJECTED

...FINE. THEN I'LL JUST TRY AND DO IT MYSELF THIS TIME...

SOME-THING WRONG?

SO WHAT'S THE OCCASION? YOU GUYS DON'T USUALLY COME OVER TO OUR CLASS-ROOM FOR LUNCH.

EH!?

SEE, RITSU? WHAT SAY YOU TAKE A PAGE FROM YUI AND TRY STUDYING ON YOUR OWN TH.S TIME

PASS.

EH-HEH-HEH

ACTU-ALLY, IT'S ABOUT FINALS ...

OH YEAH ...?

W-WELL, I WAS GONNA ANYWAY! THAT WAS MY PLAN FROM THE START!

EVEN SO, YOU WERE ABOUT TO ASK ME TO TUTOR YOU AGAIN, WEREN'T YOU?

B-BUT I DIDN'T EVEN SAY ANY-THING YET!

CLATTER

..I WON-DER IF THEY'RE GONNA BE ALL RIGHT.

WE CAN DO IT—!

I COULD REALLY LEARN SOME-THING FROM THE WAY SHE DEALS WITH YUI...

WAAAAH YOU'RE A MEANIE—!

I'M NOT GONNA HELP YOU IF YOU WON'T HELP YOURSELF!

WELL, I GUESS I'D BETTER HIT THE BOOKS MYSELF. IT WON'T DO TO GET BEATEN BY THOSE TWO.

Oh, is that right?

...AND SO AFTER ALL THAT, YUI AND RITSU BOTH SAID THEY'D TRY STUDYING ON THEIR OWN THIS TIME.

AH, YOU'RE BACK.

ガチャ CLICK

Got it.

SO IF THEY COME CRYING TO YOU, YOU HAVE TO STAND FIRM AND NOT TUTOR THEM, OKAY?

RITSU!! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M ON THE PHONE!? NOW BE QUIET!!

Will that be all for now, Miss Tsumugi?

THIS MANGA'S REALLY INTERESTING. MIND IF I BORROW IT?

RUB RUB

NOTE TO SELF: NEVER GET MUGI MAD AT ME...

Sorry about that. What were we talking about again?

C'MON, DON'T BE SO MEAN...!

ずず DRAG DRAG

WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSEDLY DOING ALL YOUR OWN STUDYING THIS TIME?

I BROUGHT US SOME CAKE. WHAT DO YOU SAY WE EAT IT TOGETHER?

I MEAN. . I HAFTA SAY THOSE THINGS WHEN I'M AROUND YUI, RIGHT ...?

SHEESH... WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THAT DETERMINATION FROM THIS AFTERNOON?

OH, NOW THAT'S NOT TRUE, IS IT?

くね WIGGLE

...SOMETHING'S UP. YOU ALMOST NEVER DO ANYTHING LIKE THIS, RITSU.

AFTER ALL, I DID BUY THAT GÂTEAU AU CHOCOLAT FROM YOUR FAVORITE BAKERY BY THE STATION...

PERK ピク

OH COME NOW, DON'T BE LIKE THAT.

くね WIGGLE

WELL, I WAS JUST GETTING READY TO START STUDYING...

...I GUESS YOU JUST LEAVE ME NO CHOICE.

ニヤリ GRIN

PUH-LEEZE TUTOR ME—!!

...SO? WHY ARE YOU REALLY HERE?

GRAB

THAT WAS FAST !!

I'VE HAD ENOUGH.

SIGH... AND HERE I WENT AND SAID ALL THOSE THINGS TO MUGI...

I AM SUCH A PUSH-OVER.

ガタッ CLANK

WHAT DID YOU SAY!?

THE REASON YOU NEVER MAKE ANY PROGRESS IS BECAUSE YOU DON'T PLAN THINGS OUT BEFOREHAND.

MIO—! COME ON, STOP SPACING OUT! HURRY UP AND TUTOR ME!!

BAM BAM

WELL, I GUESS IT'LL BE FINE IF WE DON'T TELL ANY-ONE.

OH? SO WHAT WAS IT?

ビシッ WHIP!

I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I DID MAKE A PLAN BEFORE-HAND!!

I MEAN, I HUMBLY ASK THAT YOU PLEASE TUTOR ME, SENSEI!!

ビシッ WHIP

...WHAT WAS THAT?

WOW, THAT IS A WON-DERFUL PLAN.

CAN WE?

HERE'S MY PLAN: "ALL-NIGHT STUDY SESSION AT MIO'S HOUSE."

MUGI HITS THE NAIL ON THE HEAD.

KNOWING MIO-CHAN, I'LL BET SHE'S PROBABLY HELPING RITSU RIGHT NOW.

MWUH...?

UH

I DON'T CARE IF YOU SLACK OFF, BUT DON'T GO BOTHERING ME, OKAY?

OKAAAAY

I DID WAKE YOU UP SEVERAL TIMES.

SO WHY DIDN'T YOU WAKE ME UP!?

ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

OMIGOD, I FELL ASLEEP! WHAT TIME IS IT!?

BOLT

AM LESSEE. THIS ONE TURNS INTO THIS.

UUUUH... NOW I'M GONNA FLUNK EVERYTHING FOR SURE...

HUH?

...AND THEN I SUBSTITUTE THIS.

IRK

IRK

SFX: FIDGET FIDGET

MIO-SHAN...

I WENT AHEAD AND HIGHLIGHTED ALL THE THINGS THAT WILL PROBABLY BE ON THE TEST, SO JUST DO THE BEST YOU CAN BEFORE MORNING COMES.

OHH, BUT I'M ONLY HALFWAY DONE...

HEY!! STOP MESSING WITH MY HAIR —!!

OH YEAH, THAT REMINDS ME. HOW'D YOU DO ON YOUR TEST, YUI?

82

CHECK IT OUT!!

...SO NO RETEST FOR ME THIS TIME.

I GOT MY LITTLE SISTER TO TUTOR ME...

MY LITTLE SISTER

STILL, IT WAS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION, GIVEN MY SUPERIOR ABILITY!

EH HEH.

WOW, RIT-CHAN... YOU'RE AMAZ-ING!

EH HEH HEHHH.

AH-HA-HA-HA-HA.

YOU HAVE SOME NERVE.

WELL, HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT. YOU DIDN'T STUDY ON YOUR OWN AFTER ALL, NOW DID YOU?

I REALLY AM EX-HAUST-ED...

YOU DID A GOOD JOB, MIO-CHAN. YOU MUST BE TIRED.

HUH?

HER LITTLE SISTER!?

EH!?

TEE HEE HEE. ♪

...WAIT, WHAT? DOES SHE KNOW?

AH, THERE SHE IS.

UM, EXCUSE US, BUT—

SLIDE ガラッ

. WE WERE JUST WONDERING IF MAYBE YOU WANTED TO COME TOO, SENSEI.

THE POP MUSIC CLUB'S GONNA DO A CLUB TRIP OVER SUMMER BREAK. AND .

OH MY WHAT BRINGS YOU ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE FACULTY ROOM? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?

...IN THAT CASE, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. WE'LL JUST GO BY OURSELVES.

WHOA— THE LOOK ON HER FACE SAYS SHE TOTALLY DOESN'T WANNA DO IT.

EVEN THOUGH SHE IS OUR ADVISER.

UHHH, CLUB TRIP, HUH .?

EH !?

YEAH, EVEN WHEN IT MEANS GETTING TO BARBECUE AND GO SWIMMING AND STUFF.

SHE GETS MAD IF WE DON'T ASK HER, BUT WHEN WE DO ASK HER THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS.

I HAD A BAD FEELING THE CLUB TRIP WAS GONNA TURN OUT TO BE SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

EVERYONE GOES OUT SHOPPING TOGETHER AFTER SCHOOL.

I'VE BEEN FEELING ANXIOUS BECAUSE ALL WE EVER DO IS SCREW AROUND DURING CLUB TIME...

...BUT I GUESS YOU GUYS ACTUALLY DO GET SERIOUS SOMETIMES, LIKE WITH THESE CLUB TRIPS FOR SPECIAL PRACTICE AND STUFF.

HEY, RELAX. IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE GONNA BE MESSING AROUND THE ENTIRE TIME, OKAY?

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU!

C'MON, EVERYONE NEEDS A BREAK FROM TIME TO TIME.

YOU'RE TOTALLY RIGHT!!

HMMM...

FOOD? EQUIPMENT?

SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHAT ARE WE OUT SHOPPING FOR ANYWAY?

...I WONDER WHY I FEEL SO LONELY ALL OF A SUDDEN ...

EH-HEH-HEH

THAT'S A GOOD GIRL...

THEY'RE DOING THIS TRIP JUST TO SCREW AROUND MORE!!

SWIMSUIT DEPARTMENT

SWIMSUITS, OF COURSE.

WHOA! HEY!!

YEAH —!!

ALL RIGHT! LET'S SWIM —!!

WHOOOOOA...!

BUT WE WANNA PLAY...

BOOOO-

EH —?

BOOOO!

THIS IS JUST LIKE LAST YEAR

WE SHOULD ONLY PLAY AFTER WE'RE DONE PRACTIC-ING!

THIS ONE'S EVEN MORE AMAZING THAN THE LAST ONE. .

STUNNED

PLAY FIRST !!

I THINK WE SHOULD PRACTICE.

ALL RIGHT, THEN LET'S VOTE ON IT. I VOTE THAT WE PRACTICE FIRST!

OH NO, I'M REALLY SORRY. I WASN'T ABLE TO GET THAT ONE FOR US THIS YEAR EITHER.

SO S THIS THAT OTHER VACATION HOME YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO BORROW FOR US LAST YEAR?

AND A MOST UNEX-PECTED BETRAYAL !!

I VOTE FOR PLAY-ING.

SHE HAS ANOTHER ONE EVEN BETTER THAN THIS ONE—!?

I KNOW THIS IS PROBABLY A LITTLE CRAMPED FOR EVERYONE. BUT. . PLEASE MAKE DO, OKAY?

WHEWWW...

WE SURE PLAYED HARD.

KYAAAA!

KYAAAA!

NOW LET'S GET SOME DINNER AND GO TO BED.

AND WHAT ABOUT PRAC-TICE?

I'M FINE.

C'MON, AZUSA WHY DON'T YOU COME PLAY WITH US TOO?

I KNEW WE SHOULDA PRACTICED BEFORE WE STARTED PLAYING!

.....
.....

I'M TOTALLY GOOD AT SPORTS!!

スクッ

SHOOP

I'LL SHOW YOU JUST HOW GOOD I AM!!

AH...SO YOU'RE NO GOOD AT SPORTS AND STUFF?

BUT, AZUSA, YOU PLAYED HARDER THAN ANY-ONE...

AND NOW YOUR SKIN'S SUPER DARK..

WELL, I'M GONNA PRAC-TICE TOO, LIKE WE'RE SUP-POSED TO!!

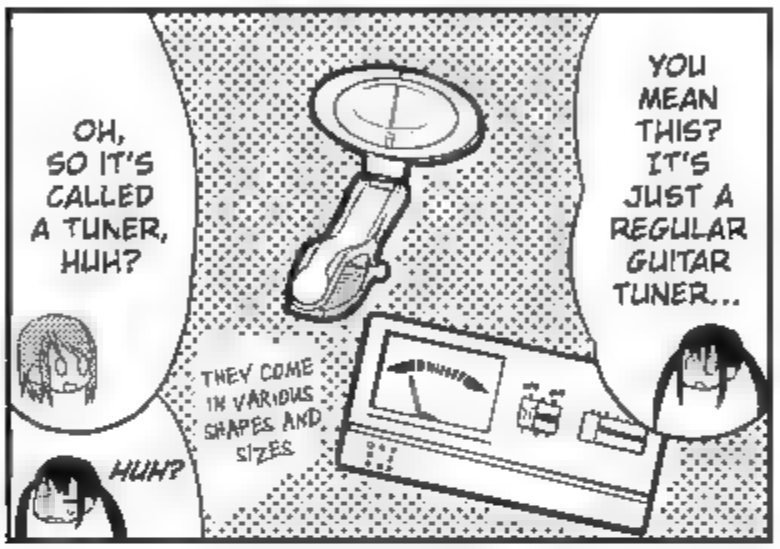
... YOU THINK SO?

WAAAH! WAAAH!

AZUSA-CHAN'S REALLY START-ING TO FIT IN AND GET ALONG WELL WITH EV-ERYONE, ISN'T SHE?

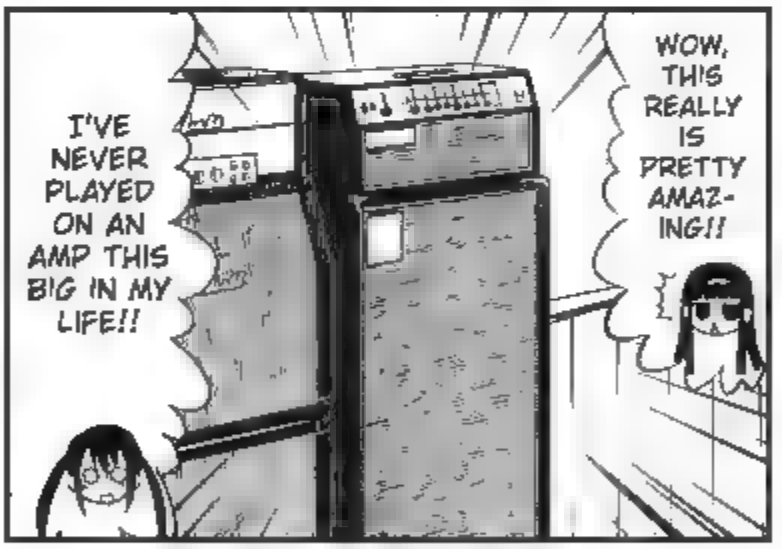
WHAT?
HEY AZU-MEOW, WHAT'S THAT?

TOUGH.
MAN, I'M POOPED... AND I'M STARVING ...
GRUMBLE

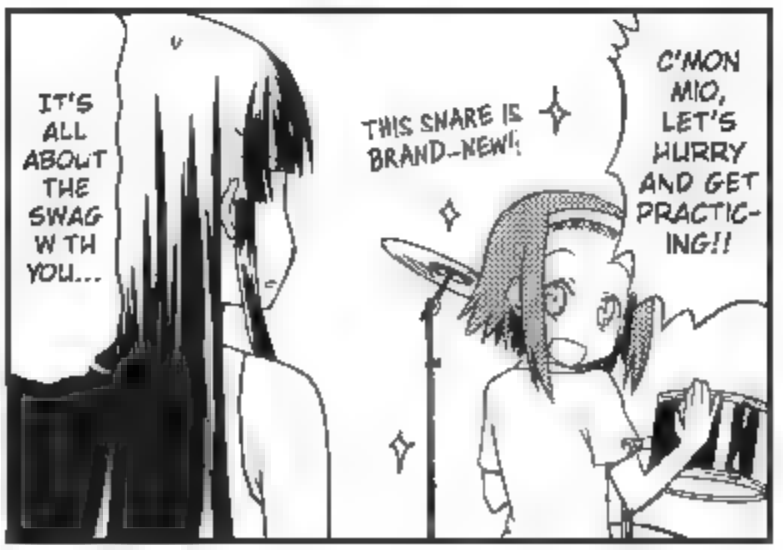

OH, SO IT'S CALLED A TUNER, HUH?
HUH?
THEY COME IN VARIOUS SHAPES AND SIZES
YOU MEAN THIS? IT'S JUST A REGULAR GUITAR TUNER...

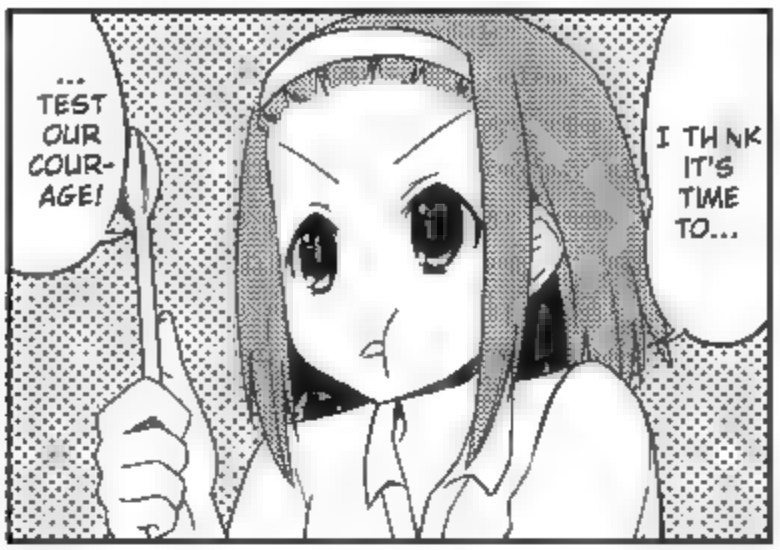
AWE-SOME —!!
WHOA —!

HUH? I DUNNO, I JUST DO IT...
IN THAT CASE, HOW DO YOU TUNE YOUR GUITAR?
YUI-SENPAI, YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT TUNERS ?

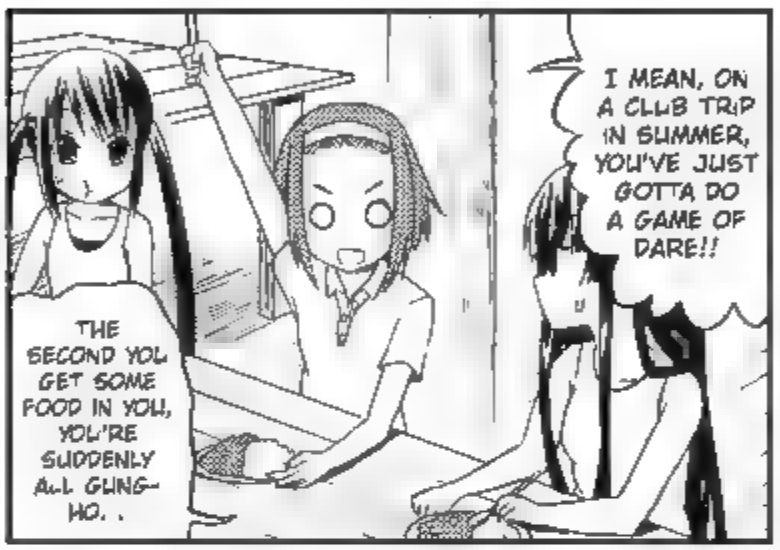

I'VE NEVER PLAYED ON AN AMP THIS BIG IN MY LIFE!!
WOW, THIS REALLY IS PRETTY AMAZ-ING!!

P-PERFECT PITCH ...!!
I CAN'T DECIDE IF SHE'S A GENIUS OR AN IDIOT
ジャラーン♪
JALANG
SEE?


IT'S ALL ABOUT THE SWAG W TH YOU...
THIS SNARE IS BRAND-NEW!
C'MON MIO, LET'S HURRY AND GET PRACTIC-ING!!


... TEST OUR COUR-AGE!
I THINK IT'S TIME TO...

JA-JAAAANG


I MEAN, ON A CLUB TRIP IN SUMMER, YOU'VE JUST GOTTA DO A GAME OF DARE!!
THE SECOND YOU GET SOME FOOD IN YOU, YOU'RE SUDDENLY ALL GUNG-HO. .

YEAH, IT FELT LIKE EVERYONE PLAYED REALLY TIGHT!
THAT LAST ONE FELT REALLY GOOD, DIDN'T IT?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT— YOU GET ALL FREAKED OUT BY SCARY STUFF.
WELL, I'M NOT GONNA PLAY, OKAY?

HAVE YOU BEEN PRACTICING ON YOUR OWN OR SOME-THING?
EVEN YOU, RITSU. YOU WERE TOTALLY ON RHYTHM THE WHOLE TIME.

SHE WOULDN'T LET ME EAT WHEN I WAS TOTALLY STARVING, SO NOW IT'S PAYBACK TIME. .!!
I. .I'M TOTALLY FINE WITH SCARY STUFF. IN FACT, I'LL SHOW YOU JUST HOW FINE I AM WITH IT!

I GUESS YOU WERE SO HUNGRY ALL THE EXTRA ENERGY BLED OUT .
I'M JUST SO STARV-ING I DON'T HAVE ANY ENERGY LEFT.

UUUUUH...

WHAT!? SAWA-CHAN! SENSEI, WHAT'S GOING ON!?

ボ・・・

) RAGGED

I MEAN WHAT ARE YOU EVEN DOING HERE?

CHIRRRP CHIRRRP

リーン リーン

RUSTLE

ガサ

カサ

RUSTLE

...BUT I GOT LOST ALONG THE WAY AND I'VE BEEN WAN-DERING AROUND EVER SINCE...

I WAS PLANNING ON SCARING EVERYONE BY JOINING UP WITH YOU A LITTLE LATER...

UM... YOU'RE HURT-ING MY HAND...

ポン PAT

I...I C-CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE IN H HIGH SCHOOL AND STILL PLAYING O-DARE GAMES. .

ギュー SQUEEZE

SFX: BURBLE, BURBLE

ぶくぶく

WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU SUCCEED-ED IN SCARING US, AT LEAST...

I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU...

. I WONDER WHY NO ONE'S COM-ING. .

HYEEEEK!

HYEEEEK!!

A CRITICISM OF THE MANGA ARTIST?

WITH MY GLASSES OFF LIKE THIS, I CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU TWO ...

I SWEAR... THAT WAS A HORRIBLE EXPERIENCE...

?

FLASH

HM? AZUSA, YOU DON'T LIKE IT VERY HOT?

OOOOH...

HYEEK!!

GRAB

BUT I CAN ALWAYS TELL YOU APART BY THE SIZE OF YOUR BOOBS!!

ジャボッ

KER-SPLOOSH

WHAT YOU'VE GOTTA DO IN THESE SITUATIONS IS JUST GET RIGHT IN ALL AT ONCE.

ぷか～...

SWELL

AH! IT WAS 'COS OF YOUR SUN-BURN!?

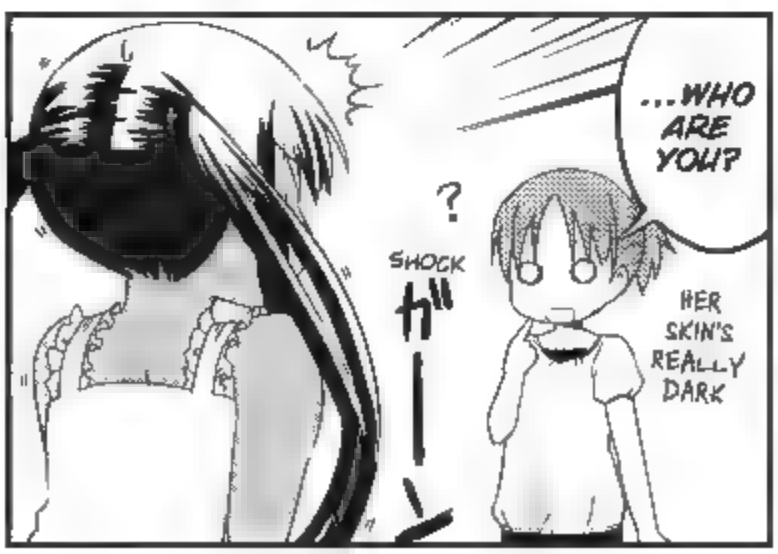
ばっ

SLOSH

OWWWWWW—!!

MAN, YOU'RE REALLY LATE... ER, I MEAN...
TMP
TMP
SORRY! SORRY I'M LATE!

TODAY I'M GOING OUT WITH MY FRIEND AZUSA-CHAN.
HI, MY NAME IS UI HIRA-SAWA.


...WHO ARE YOU?
?
SHOCK
HER SKIN'S REALLY DARK

AH.
HI—!

YOU'RE SO LUCKY... A CLUB TRIP SOUNDS LIKE SO MUCH FUN.

はむっ
MUNCH

THEN WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THE POP MUSIC CLUB, UI?

I TOTALLY HAD NO IDEA WHO YOU WERE!

THAT'S AN EXAGGERATION...

WHAT KINDS OF THINGS DID YOU GUYS DO ON THE CLUB TRIP?

IT WAS SO AWESOME!! THE VACATION HOUSE WAS RIGHT NEXT TO THE BEACH!!

BUT WHY ARE YOU SO TAN?

'COS I WENT ON THE CLUB TRIP. THE ONE FOR THE POP MUSIC CLUB.

AND THEN ON THE SECOND DAY, WE HAD A BARBECUE AND SPLIT OPEN A BIG WATER-MELON AND...

GASP!

GRIN

GRIN

GRIN

BUT WHEN MY SISTER CAME BACK, SHE WASN'T TAN AT ALL.

.....

.....

AZUSA-CHAN, YOU'RE REALLY GETTING THE HANG OF THINGS IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB, HUH?

EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE SO AGAINST EVERYTHING

THAT IS SO NOT TRUE !!

...THAT'S 'COS I WAS HAVING THE MOST FUN.

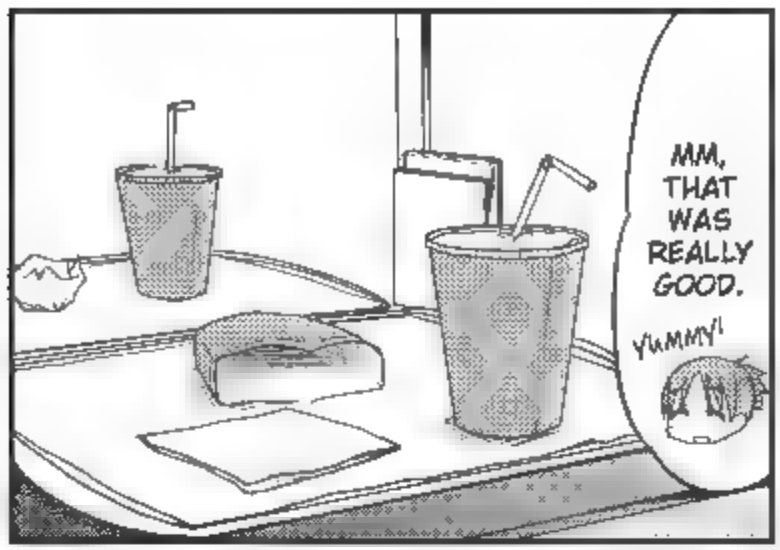
SLURRRP

ちゅー

GRIN

GRIN

SHE'S AT HOME.
WHAT'S YUI-SENPAI DOING TODAY?


MM, THAT WAS REALLY GOOD.
YUMMY!

I CAN TOTALLY PICTURE HER LYING AROUND DOING NOTHING ...
ぐで
ZONKED OUT
MY SISTER CAN'T STAND IT WHEN IT GETS REALLY HOT...
PLUS, SHE HATES AIR CONDITION-ING TOO

OH?
EVEN SO, I'M KINDA HAVING SOME ISSUES WITH YUI-SENPAI...

THAT'S JUST BEING LAZY.
LATELY SHE'S BEEN SPENDING ALL DAY EVERY DAY COL-LAPSED ON THE FLOOR.

...AND SHE'S CON-STANTLY COMING UP AND GRABB NG ME AND GIVING ME HUGS!!
AZU-MEOW!
SHE NEVER PRAC-TICES, SHE GAVE ME THIS WEIRD NICK-NAME...

I WONDER WHY UI AND I KEEP SEEING EVERY-THING SO DIFFER-ENTLY...
ゴロ ROLL
ゴロ ROLL
BUT WHEN MY SISTER ROLLS AROUND ON THE FLOOR LIKE THAT, SHE'S JUST SO CUTE, YOU KNOW?

NO, THAT'S NOT QUITE WHAT I MEANT...
MY BIG SISTER'S SO WARM AND CUDDLY, IT FEELS GOOD, DOESN'T IT?

YO-HO— I SAW YOU GUYS IN HERE, SO I DECIDED TO COME IN AND SAY HI.

NOOGIE ぐりぐり NOOGIE

HI THERE, RITSU-SAN.

I'D REALLY LIKE A BIG SISTER MYSELF, IF I COULD HAVE ONE LIKE MIO-SENPAI.

YEP. MIO'S TAKING SUMMER SCHOOL.

YOU'RE ALL BY YOURSELF TODAY?

MIO-SENPAI'S THE ONLY ONE IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB YOU CAN [illegible] ON.

HOO

YEAH, I AGREE— MIO-SAN'S A REALLY NICE PERSON AND HAS A COOL VIBE.

AZUSA'S VISION

.....
.....

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE SUMMER SCHOOL YOURSELF, RITSU-SENPAI?

SHE'S TOO MUCH OF A LOOSE CANNON AND CAN BE CARELESS ABOUT TH NGS, SO I THINK I'D PASS ON HER.

BUT WHAT ABOUT RITSU?

WELL, UM... NEVER MIND...

DEAD SERIOUS

HUH? ME? WHY WOULD I HAVE TO TAKE SUMMER SCHOOL?

GYAAAH!!

WASN'T ME.

...WHOA-HOA.

ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY TO JUST CALL HER OUT OF THE BLUE LIKE THIS...?

LET'S CALL MUGI RIGHT NOW AND GO OVER TO HER PLACE FOR A LITTLE VISIT!

MWEAH?

BY THE WAY, RITSU-SENPAI, THERE'S SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME FOR A WHILE NOW.

MAYBE I'LL TRY THE HOUSE PHONE INSTEAD ...

?

...THAT'S WEIRD. SHE'S NOT PICKING UP.

...PLUS SHE HAS THAT HUGE VACATION HOME AND EVERY-THING. IS SHE JUST INCREDIBLY RICH, OR WHAT?

TEE HEE HEE HEE

MUGI-SENPAI BRINGS HER OWN CHINA TEA SET TO SCHOOL...

Hello. To whom am I speak-ing?

UM, IS THIS TSUMUGI-SAN'S FATHER?

OH, WE GOT THROUGH.

THEY'VE GOT THEIR OWN LIVE-IN BUTLER, AND THEY'RE ALWAYS TAKING TRIPS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND STUFF WHENEVER THERE'S A LONG HOLIDAY.

SERI-OUSLY !?

YEAH, SHE REALLY IS.

SHE ACTUALLY HAS A BUTLER —!!

No, madam. I am the Koto-buki house-hold's butler.

WHAT, SO YOU DON'T ACTU-ALLY KNOW ...?

AT LEAST, IT'D BE PRETTY NEAT IF IT WAS TRUE, HUH?

WANNA STOP BY OUR PLACE ON THE WAY HOME? WE'VE GOT WATER-MELON.

UHHH... SUD-DENLY I FEEL REALLY TIRED...

JUST RELAX, RITSU-SENPAI!!

UHH, UM... IS TSU-MUGI-SAN THERE, BY ANY CHANCE?

PANIC

ONEE-CHAN! I'M HOME!

WATER-MELON

OH... OH, IS THAT RIGHT!!? WELL, THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR!!

Miss Tsumugi is in Finland right now on her summer retreat.

FWAP

FWAP

AND I BROUGHT RITSU-SAN AND AZUSA-CHAN HOME WITH ME... UH?

WELLLL... COME... HOMMME...

BEEP

...SOME-HOW, IT'S KINDA COMFORT-ING.

SHE LOOKS THE SAME AS THIS MORNING...

WHOOOOA..

CLAP

CLAP

S-S-SEE WHAT I MEAN? IT'S JUST LIKE I SAID!!

IT WAS NOTHING BUT SUMMER SCHOOL THE WHOLE TIME
HOW WAS YOUR SUMMER BREAK?
THE NEW TERM

WHAT'S THAT? I HEAR SOUNDS COMING FROM THE ROOM...

JA-JANG
アアン
IT... IT'S YUI-SENPAI! SHE'S ACTUALLY PRACTIC-ING!!

I CAN SEE YOU'VE BEEN TAINTED AS WELL, AZUSA.
THIS IS THE ROOM FOR THE POP MUSIC CLUB, ISN'T IT!?

?
?
?
LOOK, YOUR NECK'S ALL WARPED, AND THE INTONATION'S COMPLETELY MESSED UP!
AH... AZU-MEOW, MIO-CHAN. YOU GUYS CAME AT THE PERFECT TIME.
DID ALL THIS HEAT GO TO YOUR HEAD?
WHAT IN THE WORLD'S GOING ON WITH YOU, YUI-SENPAI?
PSHHHSH
CALM DOWN, AZUSA. YUI'S BRAIN CAN'T HANDLE ALL THAT TECHNICAL STUFF!
CAN I HAVE A QUICK LOOK AT IT?
FOR SOME REASON, MY GUITAR HASN'T BEEN SOUNDING VERY GOOD LATELY..
BUT I AM TAKING GOOD CARE IT!!
UH!
IT'S SAD BECAUSE IT'S SUCH A NICE GUITAR.
YOU REALLY NEED TO TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOUR GUITAR, DON'T YOU THINK?
WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU PUT NEW STRINGS ON?
WHOA! CAN'T YOU SEE YOUR STRINGS ARE ALL RUSTY!?
FOR YUI, "TAKING GOOD CARE OF IT" MEANS SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT!!
ZZZZ
FOR EXAMPLE, I LET IT SLEEP IN THE SAME BED WITH ME, I DRESS IT UP IN NICE CLOTHES...
WHAAAT!?
HUH? YOU HAFTA PUT NEW STRINGS ON?

TCH

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!? YOU'RE SUP-POSED TO BE A TEACH-ER!!

CROWD

CROWD

OH HI, SAWA-CHAN.

WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT?

EH? BUT DO WE REALLY HAFTA GO TO ALL THAT TROUBLE ...?

...OKAY, THEN SHALL WE GO TO THE MUSIC STORE?

WHAT? DON'T YOU THINK IT'D BE BETTER IF YOU TOOK IT TO A GUITAR SHOP FOR THAT KIND OF THING?

SHE JUST DOESN'T WANNA DO IT.

DO MY GUITAR MAINTE-NANCE FOR ME, OKAY?

YOU BET-CHER ASS I DO.

AND KINDLY DON'T ASK LIKE YOU'RE ALREADY ASSUMING! DON'T

RIT-CHAN, YOU DON'T DO ANY MAINTE-NANCE ON YOUR DRUMS, DO YOU?

WHY ME!?

BUT OKAY, I'LL DO IT IF YOU LET ME DO ANYTHING I WANT TO MIO-CHAN FOR A WHOLE DAY.

ずる DRAG

ずる DRAG

COME ON, THEN. OFF WE GO.

EHHH ...?

SURE, HERE YOU GO.

EEEEE-EEEK!!

キラ SPARKLE

SPARKLE キラ

WELL, HERE WE ARE.

パアア GLOW アアア

EH!? WHY'S THAT!?

I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU GUYS OUTSIDE.

(3°3) QUIVER (3°3) QUIVER

IS... IS THIS PARA-DISE?

I'M A LEFTIE, SO LOOKING AT ALL THE RIGHT-HANDED INSTRUMENTS JUST MAKES ME FEEL DEPRESSED.

CALM YOUR-SELF, MIO —!!

EXCUSE ME! I'D LIKE TO TAKE ALL THE INSTRU-MENTS YOU HAVE HERE.

はは おあ

SFX: PANT PANT

WHAT DID YOU SAY —!?

LEFT HANDED FAIR AND

EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE HAVING SOME KIND OF "LEFTIE FAIR" RIGHT NOW?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

OKAY. I'LL SERVICE IT RIGHT AWAY, SO FEEL FREE TO BROWSE THE SHOP WHILE I WORK ON IT.

LET'S JUST LEAVE MIO-SENPAI TO DO HER THING AND GO GET SOMEONE TO SERVICE YOUR GUITAR.

YUI-SENPAI? WHAT'S WRONG?

じーっ STARE

OKAY, SURE. LET'S HAVE A LOOK.

EXCUSE US. WE HAVE A GUITAR WE'D LIKE TO HAVE ADJUST-ED.

バラ IN...

バラ PIECES

ボ SHABBY

THIS IS THE GUITAR WE WERE TALKING ABOUT...

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

HAAAH

MY POOR GUITAR'S BEING STRIPPED NAKED...

IT'S ONLY BEEN A YEAR SINCE I BOUGHT IT

SORRY, NO. IT'S JUST A MESS, IS ALL.

UM... IS THIS A VINTAGE GUITAR OR SOME-THING?

COME TO THINK OF IT, YUI-SENPAI, WHY'D YOU BUY THAT PARTICULAR GUITAR IN THE FIRST PLACE?

SO EXPENSIVE...

I'D THINK IT'D BE TRICKY TO PLAY, WHAT WITH IT BEING SO HEAVY AND THE NECK BEING SO THICK AND ALL.

heavy!

thick!

AH, HI THERE.

WELCOME BACK TO THE STORE, MISS TSUMUGI.

...IT WAS CUTE !!

BECAUSE ...

.....
.....

HOW WONDERFUL!

OH, I'M JUST HERE WITH SOME FRIENDS.

AND WHAT CAN WE HELP YOU WITH TODAY?

RIGHT? IT IS CUTE, ISN'T IT? YOU DO THINK IT'S CUTE, DON'T YOU?

...I REALLY DON'T GET HOW THE HIRASAWA GIRLS THINK ABOUT THINGS...

OH, STOP IT— YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME.

WHAT'S WITH THE WEIRD COMPLIMENT?

I HUMBLY THANK YOU FOR A JOB WELL DONE, MISS TSUMUGI!

WHAT'S WRONG ?

EH !?

BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY ...

GAPE

SORRY TO KEEP YOU GIRLS WAITING.

.....
.....

WELL... IT'S YUI-SENPAI. APPARENTLY SHE DIDN'T KNOW THIS WAS GONNA COST MONEY...

AND THAT'LL BE ¥5000 FOR THE SERVICE.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

BURN

HUH !?

COULD YOU GIVE ME A BREAK?

OF COURSE IT DOES. WHAT'D YOU THINK?

...IT COSTS MONEY?

?

UHH .. IT...IT'S NO PROBLEM. WE'LL JUST CALL IT FREE THIS TIME...

IT'S ALL BECAUSE YOU DON'T TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT YOURSELF...

SHUDDER

SHUDDER

ALL RIGHT, THEN. SHALL WE GO HOME NOW?

WAIT... WHERE'S MIO-SEN-PAI...?

YAHH

SHE'S STILL LOOK-ING —!!

じ— STARE

WHAT ARE YOU, A KID?

NO !!

UM.. MAYBE WE SHOULD BE GETTING HOME NOW?

WOW. IT LOOKS ALL CLEAN AND PRETTY NOW.

FROM NOW ON, MAKE SURE YOU TAKE CARE OF IT MORE REGULARLY...

NO—!! I'M STILL LOOKING —!!

ず DRAG

ず DRAG

COME ON WE'LL COME BACK AT AN-OTHER TIME, OKAY?

SEE YOU LATER..!

"GUI-TA"!? IS THAT ITS NAME!?

だ HUG

き GUI-TA!

K

O

N

!

にこ GRIN

にこ GRIN

EH-HEH-HEH. THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL IS COMING UP, AND WE'LL GET TO PERFORM LIVE. I GET ALL EXCITED JUST THINKING ABOUT IT!

WHAT'S UP, AZU-MEOW? YOU'RE SURE IN A GOOD MOOD, AREN'T YOU?

BUT I REALLY WISH I COULD'VE SEEN THE POP MUSIC CLUB'S PERFOR-MANCE LAST YEAR.

BFF

はっ

うーん

FLIP

?

MIO BROUGHT DOWN THE HOUSE LAST YEAR, THAT'S FOR SURE!

...BUT EVEN SO...

I KNEW THAT'D SHOW UP AT SOME POINT —!!

IF YOU WANNA SEE LAST YEAR'S SCHOOL FESTIVAL PERFOR-MANCE, IT'S RIGHT HERE ON THIS VIDEO!

OH, IS THAT SO.

...YOU GUYS REALLY ROCK WHEN YOU PERFORM LIVE, EVEN IF THAT'S THE ONLY TIME.

COME ON, AZUSA... YOU DON'T WANNA SEE THAT, DO YOU?

WOW! I WANNA SEE, I WANNA SEE!

SFX: KNOCK KNOCK

SORRY TO BUST IN ON YOU GUYS WHILE YOU'RE HAVING FUN, BUT...

KYAAAAH!

TELL-US-WHATCHA-REALLY-THINK-YA-CHEEKY-LITTLE-!

ROGER!!

YUI-CHAN. RIT-CHAN.

ガシッ

GRAB

AGAIN !!?

OH CRAP, I FORGOT.

AFTER ALL, THE DEADLINE IS TODAY

...MIND SAVING IT FOR AFTER YOU SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST FOR PERMIS-SION TO USE THE GYM?

TH... THIS IS REALLY ...

LET— ME— GO— !!

I GUESS IT HAS BEEN OVER A YEAR SINCE THE BAND WAS FORMED, HASN'T IT?

THIS IS AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY TO DECIDE ON ONE. WANNA DO IT NOW?

HUH? SINCE WHEN AM I THE CLUB SECRETARY?

ALL RIGHT, MISS CLUB SECRETARY. FILL IT OUT.

WHAT ARE WE, YOUR SIDEKICKS !!?

FWAP

WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK OF "YUI HIRASAWA & HER FUN-LOVING FRIENDS"?

...COME TO THINK OF IT ...

COME ON .. COOL IT WITH THE GAGS ALREADY. LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS SERIOUSLY.

WHAT ABOUT, LIKE, "PURE ☆ PURE" OR SOMETHING?

...WHAT'S THE NAME OF OUR BAND, ANYWAY?

HOW MUCH LONGER ARE THEY GONNA TAKE ...?

YOU SERIOUSLY WANNA CALL US THAT!!?

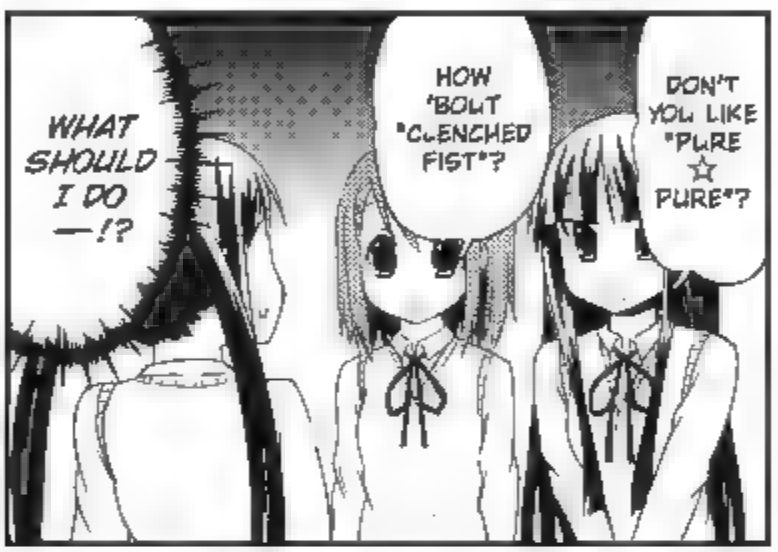
...I WAS ACTUALLY BEING SERIOUS...

THEY'RE ALL OVER THE PLACE!!

IT'S "CHOCOLATE ☆ MELODY."

"SWEETS SMILE."

"THE GIRLZ," RIGHT?



"ROCKET PENCIL" SOUNDS PRETTY COOL, DON'T YOU THINK?
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO SHUT UP
OKAY WHAT ABOUT "POPCORN HONEYMOON" OR SOMETHING?
HOW COME YOU'RE ALWAYS GOING FOR THOSE SWEET AND SAPPY ONES?

SFX: IRK IRK IRK

SHE JUST UP AND DECIDED FOR US —!!
I CAN'T EVEN SIP MY TEA IN PEACE
THIS IS THE KIND OF THING YOU SHOULD DECIDE OFF THE TOP OF YOUR HEAD
OFFICIAL NAME: AFTERSCHOOL TEA TIME

DON'T ENCOURAGE HER!

OH, YUI-CHAN

I WANNA WEAR ONE OF THE COSTUMES YOU MADE, SENSEI...

NO, NO, NO. THAT'S OKAY.

WE DON'T REALLY PLAN THAT

HEH HEH HEH HEH

SO, THE NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS IS STAGE COSTUMES, RIGHT?

WHOA!!

ずらー

STUFFED

OKAY, THEN! PICK FROM ONE OF THESE !!

IT'S BORING, THAT'S WHAT! NOT GONNA HAPPEN !!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH JUST GOING ON IN OUR UNIFORMS NEXT TIME TOO?

I DON'T EVEN CARE ANYMORE.

WHAT KIND OF COSTUMES?

WHEN DID YOU HAVE TIME TO MAKE ALL THESE ...?

SO UNLESS YOU WEAR SOMETHING FOR ME AT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL, I'M NOT GONNA BE YOUR ADVISER ANYMORE !!

ビシィ

WHIP

LATELY YOU HAVEN'T BEEN WEARING ANY OF THE COSTUMES I MAKE!

I... I MEAN LET'S CHOOSE OUR COSTUMES CAREFULLY!

IN THAT CASE, RITCHAN, LET'S PUT YOU IN THIS SWIMSUIT AND—

I WAS LYING! I OFFER MY SINCERE APOLOGY !!

IF YOU QUIT AS OUR ADVISER, YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET TO EAT ANY OF MUGI'S CAKES ANYMORE!!

AH.

UM, LESSEE ...

ABSO-LUTELY NOT!!

WELCOME TO OUR RESTAU-RANT

WHAT ABOUT WAITRESS OUTFITS?

OH? WHY DON'T YOU GO AHEAD AND TRY IT ON?

IT'S A YUKATA!

SENPAI! DON'T YOU THINK THIS ONE LOOKS REALLY CUTE?

EVEN WORSE !!

OKAY, THEN. CHINESE DRESSES?

WOW! THAT LOOKS GOOD! IT LOOKS REALLY GOOD ON YOU!

THE HEM SEEMS A LITTLE SHORT, THOUGH.

WHAT DO YOU THINK —?

.. YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS... CAN YOU?

ALL RIGHT... BUNNIES!

YEAH. IT LOOKS REALLY GOOD ON YOU.

GRIN

I REALLY LIKE IT!

IF WE GO WITH THESE, WE'LL LOOK TOTALLY NORMAL, RIGHT?

AZUSA IS ALSO LOSING PERSPECTIVE!

SENSEI, FOR SOME REASON I'M REALLY STARTING TO ENJOY THIS.

HEH HEH HEH...SHE'S QUITE A REWARDING CLOTHING MODEL, ISN'T SHE.

MIO IS LOSING PERSPECTIVE!

JA-JANG

ヤアアアン

YEAH!

HEY, LET'S TRY PRACTICING WITH THE COSTUMES ON!

THEY'RE ALSO REALLY CUTE!

YEAH, IT'S REALLY EASY TO PLAY IN THESE I THINK THEY'RE PRETTY GOOD.

...THERE'S SOMETHING I FORGOT TO TELL YOU GUYS BEFORE...

SORRY, BUT .

EH!?

THANKS, SAWA-CHAN. THESE ARE TOTALLY GREAT!

じゃーん

TA-DAA

AHHH...! WHAT IS THIS STRANGE EMOTION I FEEL!?

IT FEELS REALLY GOOD TO GET COMPLIMENTS.

WELL, WHADDAYA KNOW? YOU ACTUALLY DO A GOOD JOB SOMETIMES!

I'D BE HAPPY TO WEAR A COSTUME LIKE THIS!

WELL, I GUESS IT IS A FESTIVAL IN A SENSE.

...UM, IS SOME FESTIVAL ABOUT TO START?

I WAS JUST GONE FOR A SECOND WHAT HAPPENED.?

THE NEXT DAY ..

THOSE OUTFITS ARE ACTUALLY PRETTY EMBARRASSING WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT!

YEAH, I AGREE ...

THAT NIGHT ...

WE GOT REALLY EXCITED AND CAUGHT UP IN THE MOMENT BACK THERE, BUT...

...NOW THAT I'M CALM AND THINKING RATIONALLY...

THE FACT THAT THEY'RE EMBARRASSING IS PART OF T, AND THEN WHEN I THINK ABOUT WEARING THAT THIN MATERIAL DURING THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL, I JUST .

DAZED

...HM?

WHAT'S WRONG, YUI? YOUR CHEEKS ARE FLUSHED ...

EH-HEH-HEH... LAST NIGHT I WAS SO HAPPY I WORE THE YUKATA ALL NIGHT LONG, AND...

SWAY

SWAY

...I'M DEFINITELY HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT THOSE OUTFITS...

... EVERYONE CAME BACK TO THEIR SENSES!

...I WOUND UP CATCHING A COLD.

WE WERE TOO LATE —!!

KERSPLAT

SO WHATCHA THINK? ISN'T IT JUST SO CUTE?

WHIRL

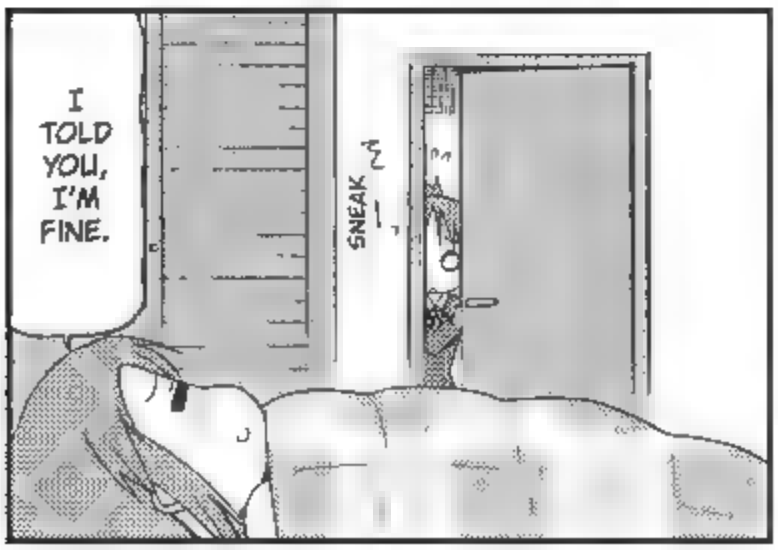
WHIRL

... EVERYONE BUT YUI, THAT IS.

KYAAAAH ♡

ALL RIGHT, THEN. I'M GOING NOW...
CLACK

MY BIG SISTER CAUGHT A COLD.


I TOLD YOU, I'M FINE.
SNEAK

I'M FINE. GO AHEAD AND GET GOING.
I'M HEADING OFF TO SCHOOL SOON, BUT... ARE YOU OKAY?

ガラッ
JUMP
SLIDE
WHO HERE WILL FACE ME!?

キーンコーンカーン
DING DONG
HOW'S YUI-SENPAI FEELING NOW?

APPAR-ENTLY SENPAI'S STILL NOT FEELING SO WELL.
HEH... SORRY!! WE JUST CAME OVER TO ASK UI-CHAN HOW YUI IS DOING...

OH, I SEE...
NOT GOOD. IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GONNA BE A WHILE BEFORE SHE GETS BETTER...

I... I'LL GET MY SISTER HERE SOME-HOW, I PROM-ISE!!
WE WERE PLANNING ON SPENDING THE NIGHT HERE TOMORROW SO WE COULD PRACTICE... BUT NOW IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO DO IT WITHOUT YUI.

OOOH... I REALLY WISH I COULD BE SICK IN HER PLACE...
I'M REALLY WORRIED, 'COS WE'VE ONLY GOT A FEW DAYS LEFT BEFORE THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL...

?
IT'LL BE FINE !!
NAH... IF WE DON'T LET HER COLD PLAY ITSELF OUT, WON'T WE JUST END UP MAKING IT WORSE?

?
WHAT'S WRONG?
..K-KISS HER OR SOME-THING
BUT IN ORDER TO CATCH HER COLD, I'D HAVE TO..!!

I SEC-OND THAT.

ANYWAY, I'M RELIEVED THAT YOU SEEM TO BE FEELING BETTER.

THE NEXT DAY...

...LOOKS LIKE OL' YUI DIDN'T SHOW UP AFTER ALL...

UI WAS VERY DILIGENT ABOUT NURSING ME BACK TO HEALTH!

BUT WE HEARD YOU WERE STILL A WAYS OFF FROM RECOVERY.

AH!! SHE CAME !!

ガラッ

SLIDE

YOO-HOO.

OH... OH, THAT! THAT WAS 'COS, UM...

.. OKAY, BUT IF YOU'RE REALLY ALL BETTER, THEN TRY COMING TO SCHOOL IN THE MORN-ING.

OH, MY COLD... R.GHT, MY COLD.

ARE YOU OKAY? SURE YOUR COLD'S ALL BETTER?

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU WANTED TO SKIP, R.GHT?

?

...I JUST SUD-DENLY GOT BETTER RIGHT AFTER CLASS ENDED !!

WELL, FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, I GUESS YOU'RE FINE.

SHE'S TOTALLY FAKING THAT

AHEH! AHEH! AHEM !!

SOMETHING DEFINITELY FEELS WEIRD.

L-LET'S TRY THAT ONE MORE TIME!!

AND WHOSE FAULT COULD THAT BE? SHEESH ...

NEVER MIND THAT... LET'S JUST PRACTICE! WE HAVE BASICALLY NO RE-HEARSAL TIME LEFT!

SO... IT WAS YOU!

ジャーン

JA-JANG

OKAY, WE'RE GOING! ONE... TWO... THREE... FOUR!!

CLACK カン カン CLACK

ALL RIGHT, HERE WE GO... LET'S DO IT!

YUI, YOU'RE KEEP-ING THE RHYTHM WAY TOO ACCU-RATELY!!

YOU'RE TOO PER-FECTLY IN TIME WITH US!! OUR PLAYING'S NEVER FELT LIKE THIS BEFORE!!

ジャーン

JA-JANG

S-SOME-THING IS SERIOUSLY SCARY HERE...YUI, DID THAT COLD DO SOMETHING TO YOU?

SHOCK

WHAT THE—!?

EH—?

YUI-SENPAI, IS SOMETHING WRONG? WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY CALLING ME "AZUSA-CHAN"...?

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, YOU GUYS!? IF SHE'S PERFECTLY IN TIME WITH US, THEN SO BE IT!! PERSONALLY, I THOUGHT IT FELT TOTALLY AWESOME!!

EH? "UI-CHAN" !?

SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BEEN HERE!?

...DON'T YOU THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU GAVE UP THE "YUI" ACT? ...UI-CHAN.

Y-YEAH, I GUESS SO. I JUST GOT SORTA CONFUSED, THAT'S ALL.

THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S LIKE AZUSA-CHAN SAID!!

ALL RIGHT, THEN TELL ME WHAT MY NICK-NAME IS!!

I... I HAVE NO CLUE WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT..

AH-HA-HA-HA-HA

IN THAT CASE, I GUESS WE DIDN'T REALLY NEED TO SPEND THE WHOLE NIGHT HERE PRACTICING.

AH-HAH! YOU'RE AN IMPOSTER!!

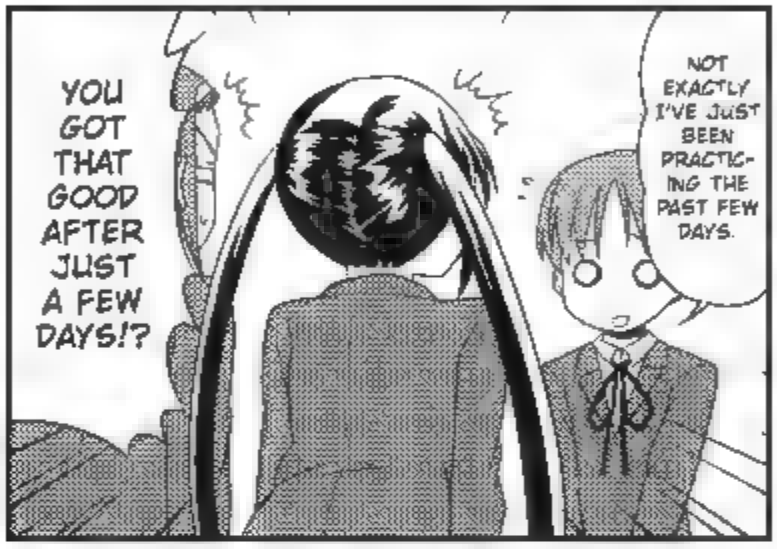
UHH... UHH... IT'S "AZUSA THE NUMBER TWO"!!

"AZUSA-CHAN" ...!?

WAIT... WHAT'D SHE CALL ME?

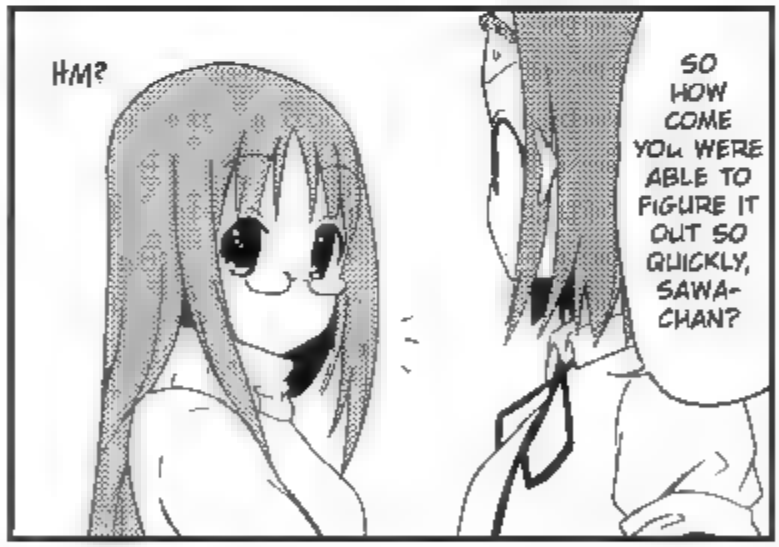
SO, HI, I GUESS YOU KNOW HOW TO PLAY GUITAR, HUH?

I FIGURED IF WORSE CAME TO WORST, I COULD JUST STAND N AND PLAY FOR HER
...I'M REALLY SORRY. IT'S JUST THAT MY SISTER STILL ISN'T DOING VERY WELL...


YOU GOT THAT GOOD AFTER JUST A FEW DAYS!?
NOT EXACTLY I'VE JUST BEEN PRACTIC-ING THE PAST FEW DAYS.

じ——
STARE
YEAH... BUT EVEN SO, YOU LOOKED TOTALLY LIKE HER JUST NOW. I SERI-OUSLY HAD NO IDEA.

HEY, HEY.
...HMM. MAYBE IT'D BE BEST IF WE JUST LET YUI CONTINUE TO TAKE IT EASY FOR A WHILE...


HM?
SO HOW COME YOU WERE ABLE TO FIGURE IT OUT SO QUICKLY, SAWA-CHAN?

HANG IN THERE, YUI!!
AH-CHOO !!

じ……——……
STARE
WE CAN'T TELL THE DIFFER-ENCE!
OH, COME ON— THEIR BUST SIZES ARE COM-PLETELY DIFFER-ENT.

THREE DAYS BEFORE THE FESTIVAL

JA-JANG

NICE WORK, EVERYONE.

ALL RIGHT. I GUESS THAT'LL DO IT FOR TODAY'S PRACTICE, HUH?

SHE'S ALREADY BEEN OUT A WEEK, HASN'T SHE?

I'M BURNIN' UP--

BY THE WAY, I WONDER WHEN THE HECK YUI'S GONNA BE ABLE TO COME BACK TO SCHOOL.

IF THIS KEEPS UP, YUI'S GONNA LOSE HER LEAD GUITAR SEAT TO AZUSA.

.....
.....

AH! YUI-SENPAI!!

AFTER SCHOOL

AH!!

MORN-ING, EVERY-ONE.

SLIDE

THE NEXT DAY

YEAH... SORRY, SORRY.

I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GONNA MAKE IT BACK IN TIME FOR THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL!!

IS YOUR COLD ALL BETTER NOW?

YUI!!

SLAP

BUT WE'RE REALLY GLAD YOU DID MAKE IT.

UWAAAH-CHOOOO!!

AAAH!?

FWUMP

YOU'RE A LIAR, IS WHAT YOU ARE.

SPLETCH

YEP. I'M TOTALLY GOOD!!

.....
.....

...BUT I GUESS I STILL HAVEN'T COMPLETELY RECOVERED YET.

I PUSHED MYSELF TO COME 'COS THE FESTIVAL'S SO CLOSE AND I KNEW I HAD TO PRACTICE...

Y-YOU... YOU'RE BANNING ME!?

ガバッ
BOLT

YUI, DON'T COME TO ANY MORE CLUB MEETINGS UNTIL THE CONCERT.

THAT'S NOT IT.

MAYBE IT'D BE BETTER IF YOU GUYS DID THE CONCERT WITHOUT ME THIS TIME.

AND THEN WE'RE ALL GONNA GO ON STAGE TOGETHER! GOT IT?

YOU'RE GONNA REST UP BEFORE THE CONCERT AND BEAT THIS COLD ONCE AND FOR ALL!

AZUSA...

NO WAY!! IF WE CAN'T ALL DO IT TOGETHER, THEN I'D RATHER JUST BACK OUT!!

THAT'S GROSS —!!

びちゃあ

SPLOSH

GOT IT... UWAHHCHOO!!

...YOU'RE CHOKING HER.

BURBLE

BURBLE

AH.

OKAY!!

ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE! IT'S UP TO US TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN STILL DO AT THIS POINT!

YUI-SENPA! COLLAPSED HERE IN THE CLUBROOM... COULD YOU MAYBE COME AND GET HER?

...UM, HELLO, UI? ARE YOU STILL AT SCHOOL?

UGH. WHAT A PAIN IN THE BUTT...

どちゃっ TONS OF STUFF

SO... RITSU AND MUGI, COULD YOU TWO CARRY THIS EQUIPMENT OVER TO THE GYM?

THAT WAS FAST !!

ガラッ SLIDE

ONEE-CHAN !!

THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD GET IT THAT FAST!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'S ACTUALLY TRYING TO PLAY SICK

I...I SUDDENLY GOT THE CHILLS... I THINK I MIGHT'VE CAUGHT YUI'S COLD...

37° 3 10 3

SHOOT.

SFX: SHIVER SHIVER

YOU MAY TRY NOT TO SHOW IT, BUT YOU REALLY DO CARE ABOUT YUI, DON'T YOU, AZUSA?

YEAH.

ARE YOU OKAY?

NOT ON YOUR LIFE!!

ALL RIGHT, MIO... THEN YOU'D BETTER START PRACTICING YOUR SINGING IN CASE YUI LOSES HER VOICE!

HEY.

SHE CAN'T EVEN ADMIT IT.

NOT SO MUCH... IT'S JUST THAT THINGS WOULD BE NO FUN AROUND HERE WITHOUT HER, THAT'S ALL.

UPSY-DAISY...

AND ON THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL...

WHEE

WHEE

I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE GONNA GET TO PERFORM LIVE WITH ALL THIS AWESOME EQUIPMENT...I'M TOTALLY STOKED—!!

WHEW. I GUESS THAT ABOUT DOES IT.

EVEN THOUGH WEATHER HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT— THE CONCERT'S IN THE GYM, YOU KNOW.

OH YEAH... IT'S PERFECT WEATHER FOR A CONCERT!

SFX: TUKKA TUKKA TANG

I HAVEN'T SEEN HER TODAY AT ALL.

FOR NOW, SHOULD WE JUST GO BACK TO THE ROOM?

NOW IF YUI WOULD JUST GET HERE, EVERYTHING WOULD BE PERFECT

.....

.....

...WHATEVER, MIO. YOU LOOK LIKE YOU DIDN'T SLEEP A WINK. YOUR EYES ARE ALL BLOODSHOT...

RITSU, DID YOU MAKE SURE TO GET PLENTY OF SLEEP LAST NIGHT —?

WH-WHY ARE YOU SINGLING ME OUT !!?

YOU'RE REALLY WORRIED, HUH? ABOUT YUI?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT SHE'S LIKE THIS EVERY TIME.

SHE'S JUST NERVOUS.

SHE SEEMS WOUND REALLY TIGHT

...WHAT'S GOING ON WITH MIO-SENPAI?

I'M READY TO DO THIS!

WE'VE BEEN SITTING HERE WAITING FOR YOU!!

SORRY GUYS

IF YOU WERE HERE ALREADY, YOU SHOULDA COME AND TOLD US FIRST!

NICE OF YOU TO SHOW UP, SAWA-CHAN.

EVERY-THING'S READY AND IN PLACE, I HOPE?

EH-HEH-HEH...I'M SO SORRY I MADE YOU GUYS WORRY.

BUT WE'RE REALLY GLAD YOU GOT HERE IN TIME..

WELL, I CERTAINLY WASN'T SITTING AROUND PICKING MY NOSE, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

WHAT THE HECK HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ALL THIS TIME? WE WERE RUNNING AROUND LIKE CRAZY.

YEP! I'M TOTALLY BACK TO NORMAL!

SO THIS TIME YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE COM-PLETELY OVER YOUR COLD, RIGHT?

I REALLY WISH SHE'D USE ALL THAT ENERGY ON SOMETHING MORE CONSTRUC-TIVE...

DUH-DUH-DUUUN

I WAS MAKING A NEW AND IMPROVED VERSION OF THOSE YUKATA— THE ARCTIC SUMMER ROBE!!

YEP. YUI'S BACK TO NORMAL, ALL RIGHT.

AAAH!!

はぁ PANT

ONEE-CHAN! YOU FORGOT YOUR GUITAR ...!

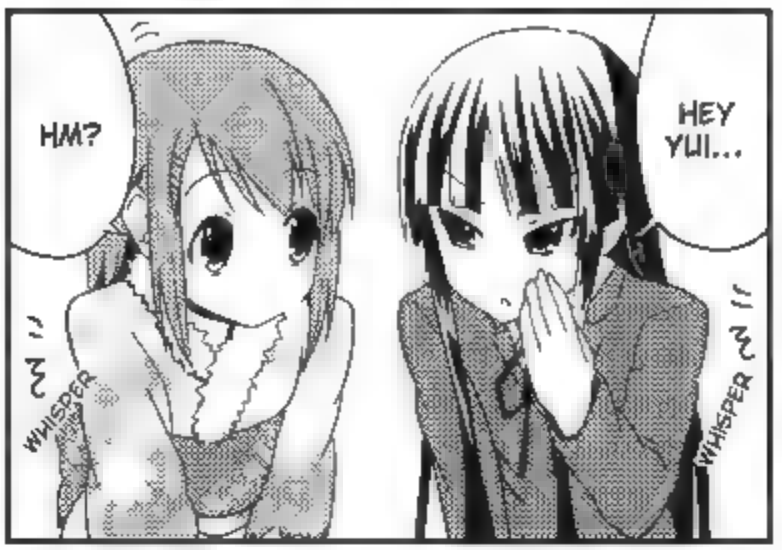
はぁ PANT

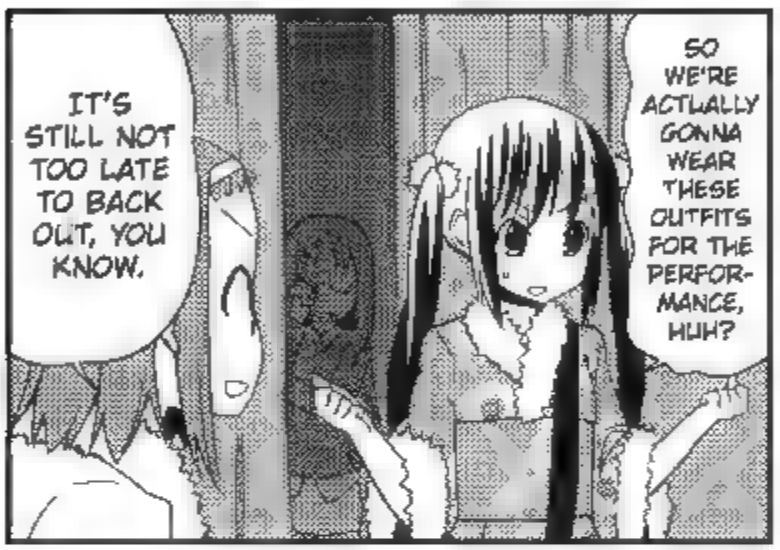
YUI'S HERE TOO!!?

DUH-DUH-DUUUN

AND NOW I PRESENT THE NEW OUTFIT!!

SHUFFLE
MUTTER


HM?
HEY YUI...
WHISPER
WHISPER


IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE TO BACK OUT, YOU KNOW.
SO WE'RE ACTUALLY GONNA WEAR THESE OUTFITS FOR THE PERFOR-MANCE, HUH?

OH? IS THAT RIGHT?
?
AZUSA WAS MORE WORRIED ABOUT YOU THAN ANYONE, YOU KNOW. SO BE SURE AND MAKE IT UP TO HER.

HELLO, EVERY-ONE! WE'RE AFTER-SCHOOL TEA TIME —!!
AH HA HA HA
I'VE COME THIS FAR— I'M NOT BACK ING OUT NOW!

EEEEH!?
AZU-MEOW! I'M SOOOO SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY — ♡

FLASH
ONE! TWO! THREE! FOUR!!
WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS SONG... "FLUFF-FLUFF TIME"!!
WOOOOOO-HOOOOOO!

.....MAYBE
STING
STING
...ARE YOU SURE SHE WAS REALLY WORRIED ABOUT ME?
UH DIDN'T MEAN IT

YOU'RE STILL GOING ON ABOUT IT!?

EVEN YOUR OWN GUITAR SOLO WAS A COMPLETE AND UTTER MESS !!

ぱち POP

ぱち CRACKLE

BUT IT'S NOT MY FAULT...I COULDN'T PRACTICE 'COS I HAD A COLD

THIS

WELL, EVEN THAT COLD WAS YOUR OWN DOING!!

THAT

...YEAH, BUT ...

SO PRETTY

YEAH, NO KIDDING ...

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE'VE HAD A GOOD FIGHT LIKE THIS.

HEH HEH HEH.

MMMMM!?

AND IT WAS ALL YOUR FAULT, YUI-SENPAI!!

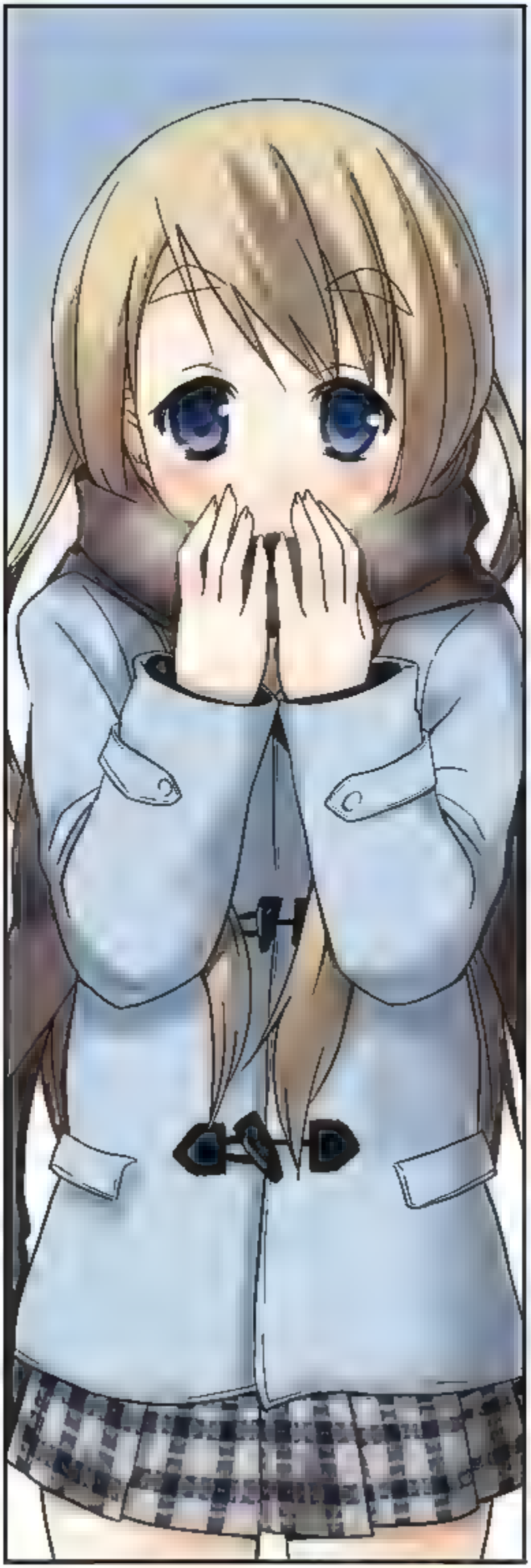
RAWR

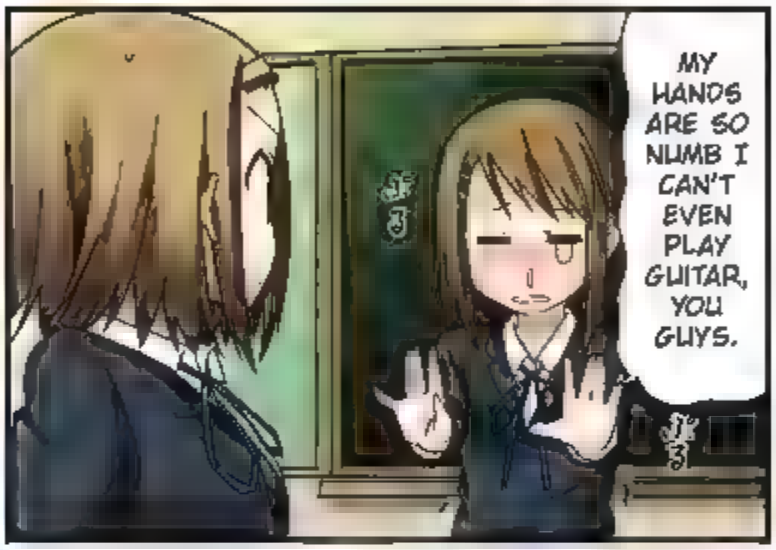
...OUR PERFORMANCE SURE DID SUCK BIG TIME.

THIS IS BASICALLY HOW WE DO THINGS IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB, RIGHT?

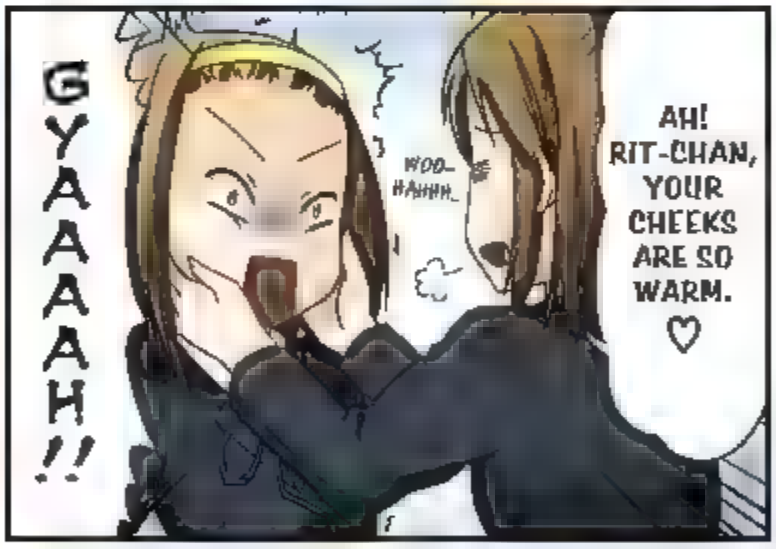
MIO-CHAN, ARE YOU SURE AZU-MEOW WAS REALLY WORRIED ABOUT ME...?

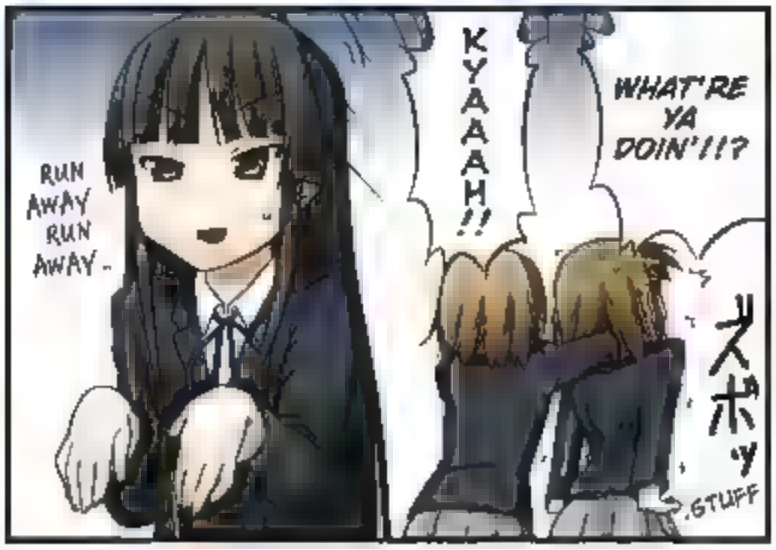
YOU FORGOT THE OPENING RIFF! YOU FORGOT THE LYRICS!

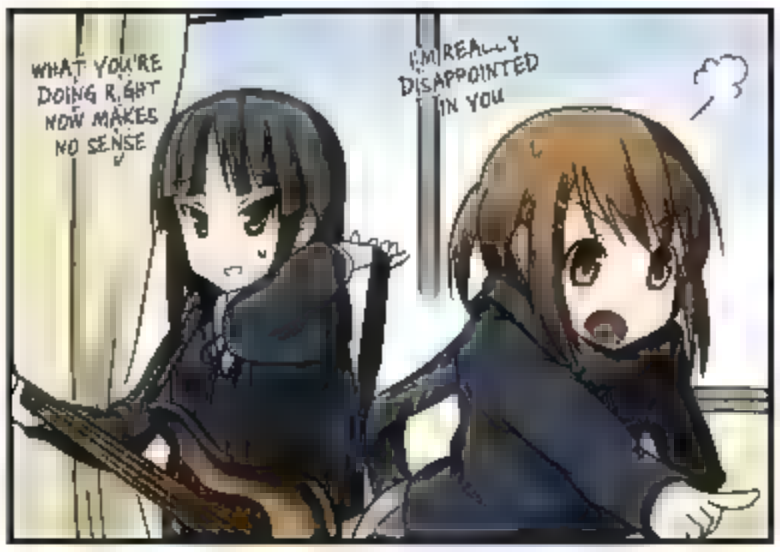


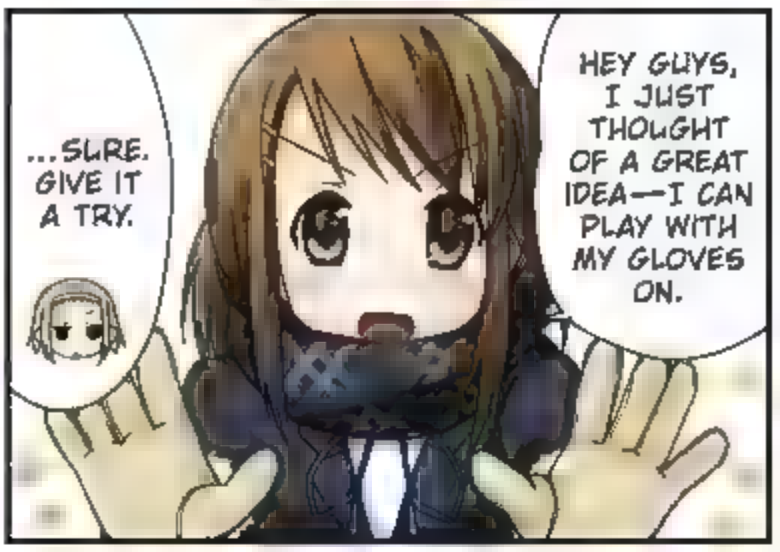


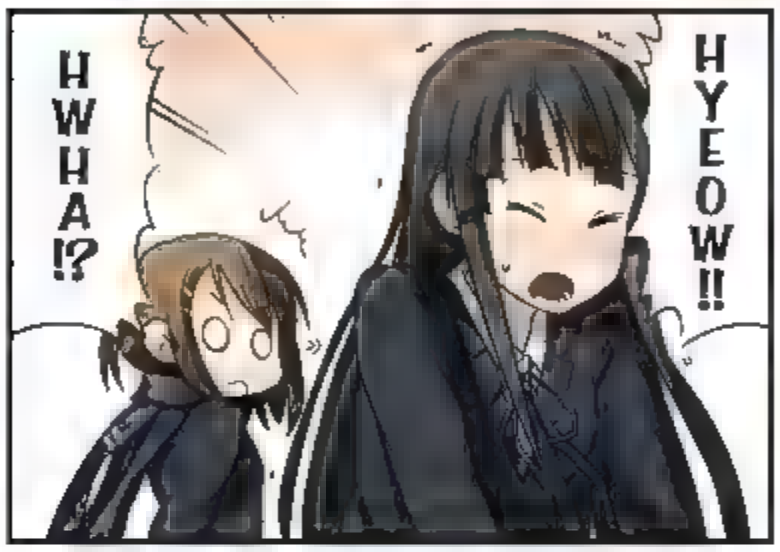
SFX: TREMBLE TREMBLE

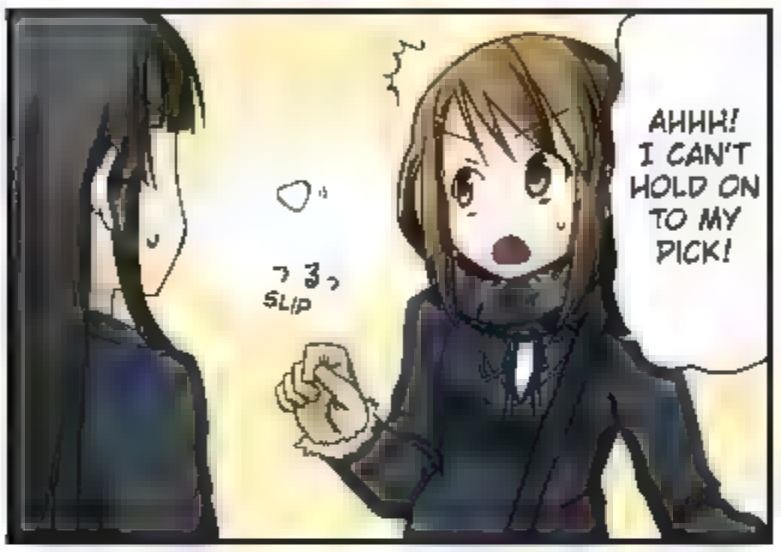


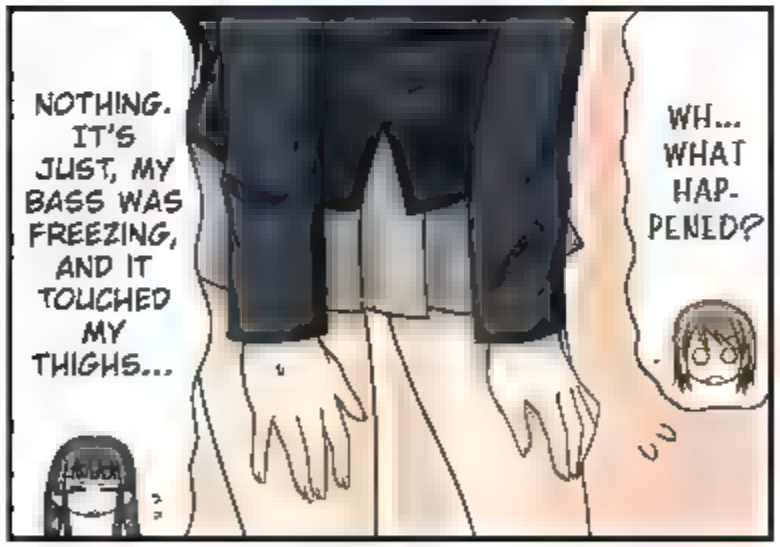


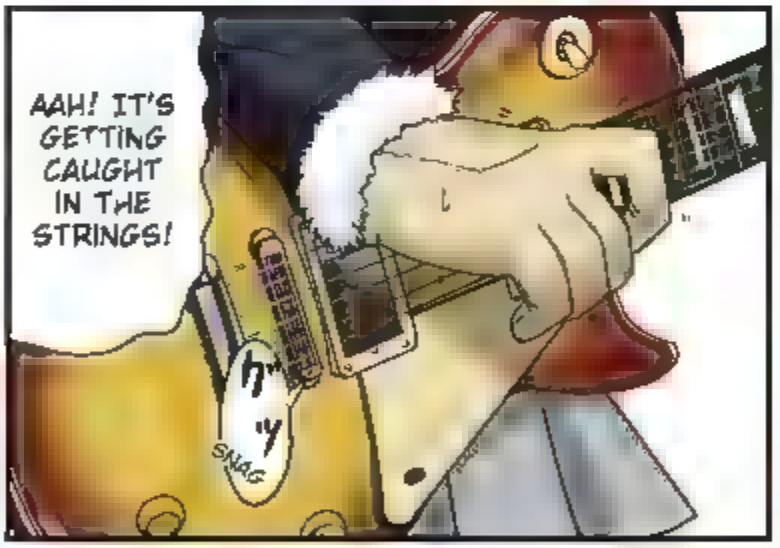

WHAT YOU'RE DOING RIGHT NOW MAKES NO SENSE
I'M REALLY DISAPPOINTED IN YOU


...SURE. GIVE IT A TRY.
HEY GUYS, I JUST THOUGHT OF A GREAT IDEA—I CAN PLAY WITH MY GLOVES ON.

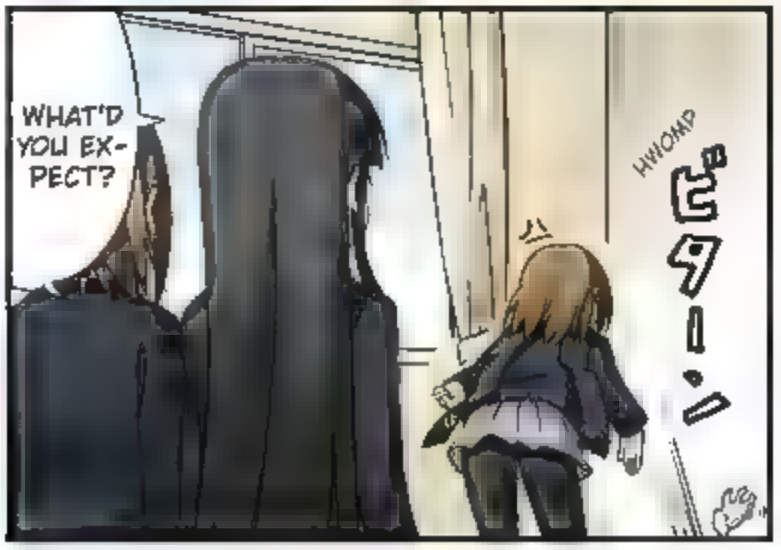

HWHA!?
HYEOW!!


AHHH! I CAN'T HOLD ON TO MY PICK!
SLIP


NOTHING. IT'S JUST, MY BASS WAS FREEZING, AND IT TOUCHED MY THIGHS...
WH... WHAT HAP-PENED?


AAH! IT'S GETTING CAUGHT IN THE STRINGS!
SNAG

IIII... DONNN'T ... WANNN-NNNNA ...
GRAB
YOU JUST SAID "HYEOW." ♡ SAY IT ONE MORE TIME. ♡


WHAT'D YOU EX-PECT?
HWOMP

BUT YOU KNOW, THEY SAY HAVING COLD HANDS MEANS YOU HAVE A WARM HEART.

MY CHEEKS STILL FEEL COLD

BUT MAN, YUI, YOUR HANDS ARE SERI-OUSLY COLD, AREN'T THEY?

M-MUGI, WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOU SEEM TO BE PLAYING THE KEYBOARD JUST FINE.

SURE ENOUGH. YOUR HANDS ARE WARMER THAN MINE.

I WIN..!

LET'S CHECK MIO'S ...

!! THEY'RE SUPER WARM!!

DON'T YOUR FINGERS GET NUMB OR ANY-THING?

YOU'RE GETTING OFF-TOPIC.

ぞわわっ CHILLS

AND AZU-MEOW'S ARE... WHOA, THEY'RE SO TINY AND CUTE ...!

I ALWAYS RUN A LITTLE HOT...

FEELS A LITTLE LEFT OUT

ナデ GIGGLE

ナデ GIGGLE

EH? LEMME SEE, LEMME SEE.

WOW, IT'S TRUE!!

WHOA!! YOU'RE STILL HOLD-ING A GRUDGE OVER THAT!!

I SEE NOW. SO I'M JUST A GIRL WITH BIG HANDS AND A COLD HEART ...

ONE OF "THESE"

SNUGGLE

すり SNUGGLE

THIS FEELS SOOO GOOD. I WISH I HAD ONE OF THESE AT HOME ...

WUH-HUH-HUH.

WELL, REGARDLESS... IT'S STILL A GOOD THING YOU'RE FEELING MOTIVATED, ISN'T IT?

HWUHHH...

COZY ほんわ～

OHH, THIS WARMS ME UP ...

BUT STARTING TOMORROW, CLUB ACTIVITIES WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR A WHILE BECAUSE OF FINALS.

BRING IT ON!! I'M ALL OVER THE NEXT CONCERT!!

WHIP ビシッ

IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE IMPROVING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS.

YUI, YOU'VE BEEN PRACTICING PRETTY HARD LATELY, HAVEN'T YOU?

IT'S TRUE.

...NO WAY.

...SO I THOUGHT I'D BETTER MAKE SURE I DON'T LET YOU GUYS DOWN AGAIN...

YEAH...I REALLY LET EVERYONE DOWN AT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL AND STUFF ...

CRUNCH ポリ

CRUNCH ポリ

AAH!! YUI'S MOTIVATION JUST REACHED LIMIT DOWN!!

MOTIVATION

SFX: SHOOOOOP

...BUT THE YEAR'S ALMOST OVER.

THIS YEAR YOU GUYS ARE GONNA SEE THE NEW ME!!

CLATTER ガタッ

I HAVEN'T BEEN GETTING ENOUGH TEA AND SNACKS ...

WHAT ON EARTH IS WRONG WITH YOU, SAWA-CHAN?

DUR-ING THE RUN-UP TO FINAL EX AMS

...FOR CRYING OUT LOUD. CHEER UP ALREADY, YUI.

EH? 'COS FINALS ARE COMING UP...

WHY HAVEN'T YOU GIRLS DONE ANY TEA PARTIES LATELY!?

AH, SAWA-CHAN!!

SWAY

SWAY

WHAT? I MEAN, IT'S JUST THAT— NO CLUB ACTIVITIES ARE ALLOWED 'COS OF FINALS.

SO WHAT'S YOUR POINT?

HEY SAWA-CHAN, WHY DON'T YOU COME OVER AND SAY SOMETHING TO YU—

WHUH!!

PUMP

UH... I'M GONNA HAVE TO SAY THE RULE.

AND WHAT'S MORE IMPOR-TANT TO YOU? ME, OR SOME STUPID RULE?

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS!!?

どよーーん

DEPRESSED

UHP_

SOMEHOW I THINK I'D HAVE AN EASIER TIME BELIEVING YOU IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE A FORK IN YOUR HAND.

AHHH...

COZY ほんわ～

THIS IS BRINGING ME BACK TO LIFE...

UHH... S-SURE ...

I'M SURE IT CAN'T BE EASY FOR YOU GIRLS EITHER, HAVING A FACULTY ADVISER LIKE THIS ONE. . BUT PLEASE KEEP HER OUT OF TROUBLE, ALL RIGHT?

UM... DO YOU REALLY THINK IT'S OKAY FOR US TO BE USING THE ROOM WITHOUT PERMISSION?

YOU LOOK SO COMPLETELY HAPPY RIGHT NOW...

.....
.....

NOW GO HOME EARLY FOR A CHANGE.

SLIDE ピシャーン SLAM

HEY! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GUYS DOING IN HERE!!?

SLIDE ガラッ

OH IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE. ALL WE GOTTA DO IS NOT GET CAUGHT.

THAT PARTICULAR TEACHER HAS BEEN TEACHING HERE SINCE I WAS A STUDENT...

...SO, SAWA-CHAN, DOES THIS MEAN EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT A HYPOCRITE YOU ARE?

HEY!!

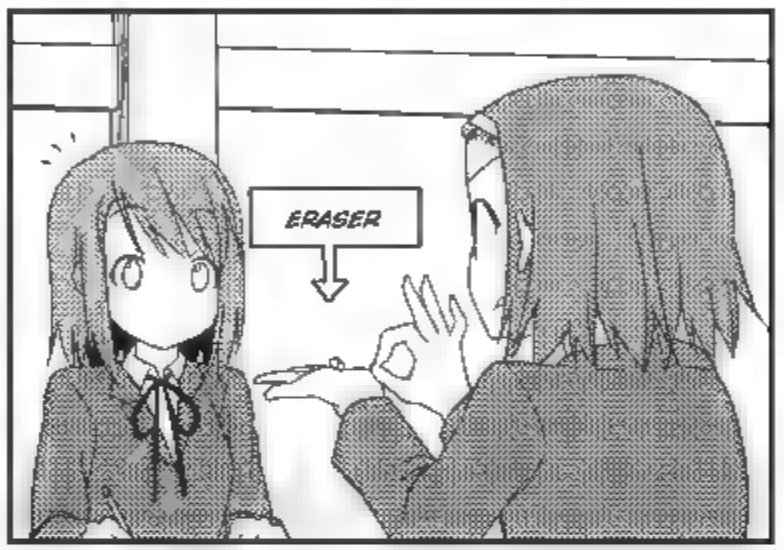
JUMP

I WAS JUST REMINDING THEM THAT THEY CAN'T BE USING THE ROOM IN THE RUN-UP TO FINALS.

HEE-HEE-HEE..

AT THE LI-BRA-RY!
BORED OF STUDYING

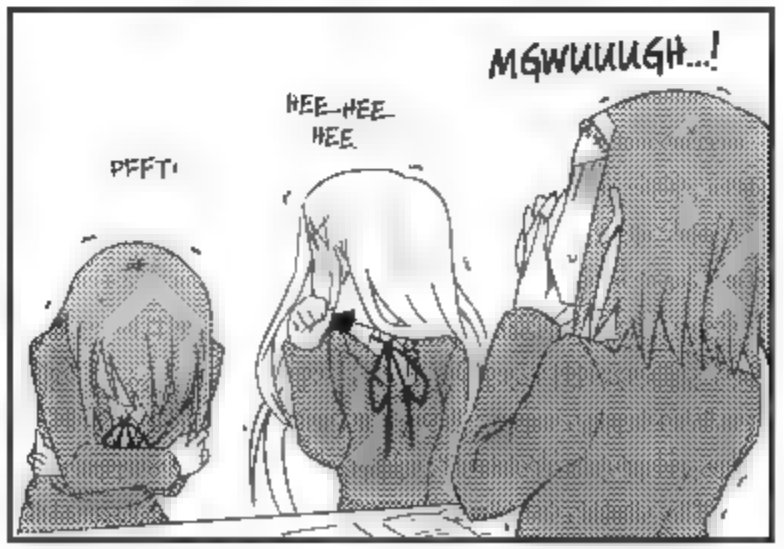
トントン
TAP
TAP


ERASER

BWMFFFF!!
GOT A BIG MUSTACHE.

AND SHE KNOCKS IT BACK TO THE PITCHER'S MOUND!!
PING
SHLOOP
KA-KONK

QUIET DOWN OVER THERE!! NO MAKING NOISE IN THE LIBRARY!!
Y-YOU GUYS! WOULD YOU CUT IT OUT ALREADY !!?


MGWUUUGH...!
HEE-HEE-HEE
PFFT!

I NEVER IMAGINED I COULD GET BEATEN OUT IN EVERY SINGLE SUB-JECT...

THIS IS REALLY AMAZ-ING, YUI...

OH, HOW'D YOU DO?

I GOT MY TESTS BACK!!

OH, MIO-CHAN ...

スッ...

SWP

I GUESS IT MEANS I JUST NEED TO WORK EVEN HARDER, HUH?

WHOA!! YOU GOT HIGH SCORES ON EVERY-THING!!

CHECK IT OUT !!

92

81

88

96

...AND WHAT'S SHE REALLY THINKING?

ガシッ

GRIP

YOU CAN USE THAT ATTITUDE FOR GUITAR TOO!!

WUH-HUH-HUH... THIS IS JUST WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I GET SERIOUS.

Y-YUI... HOW'D YOU PULL IT OFF..?

OWWWW!

SQUEEZE

CRUSH

HOW IN THE NAME OF ALL THAT IS HOLY COULD YOUR SCORES BE HIGHER THAN MINE WHEN ALL YOU DID WAS GOOF OFF THE WHOLE TIME!!?

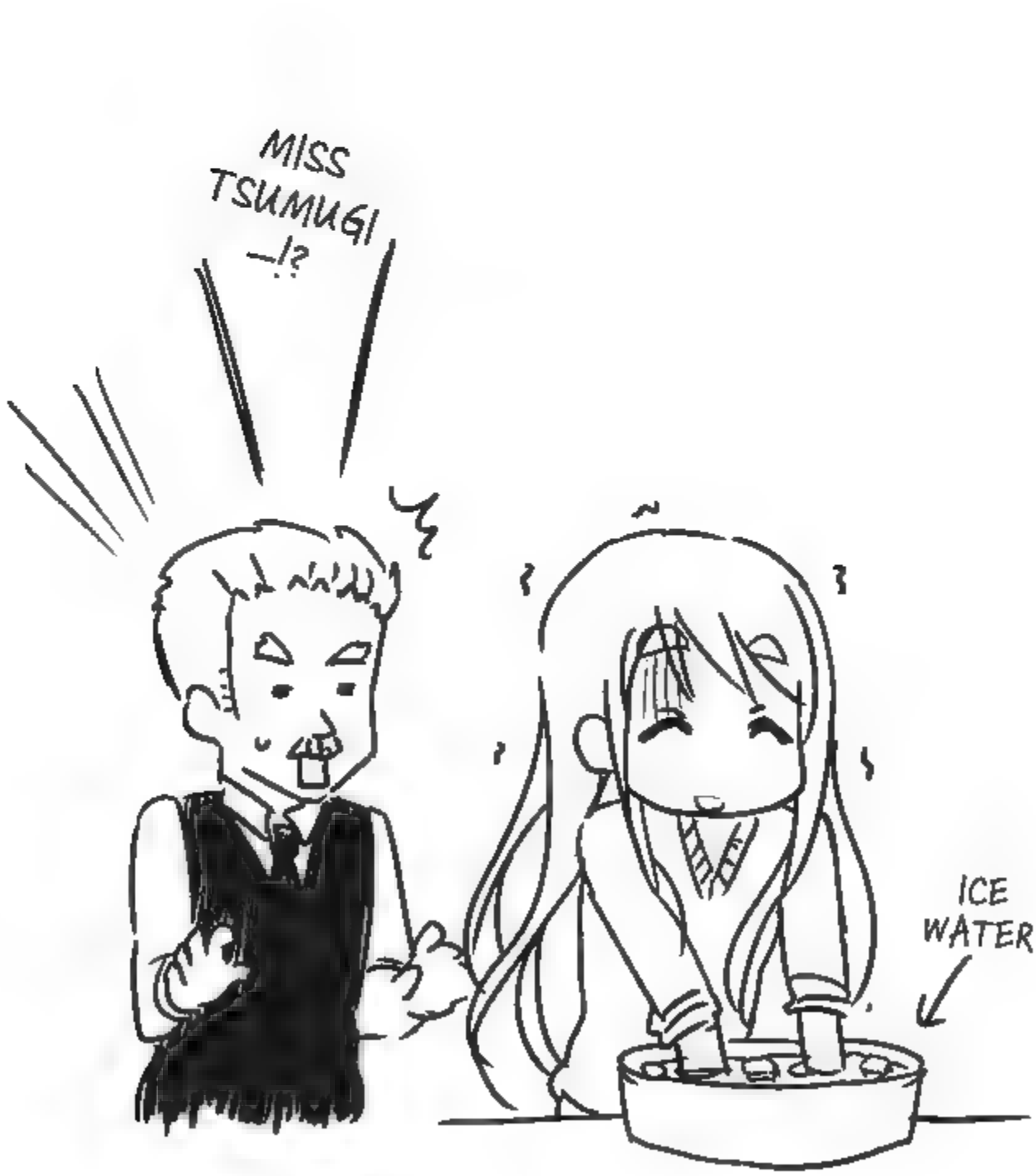
SHEESH.

EH-HEH!

YOU WERE PLAYING THE ODDS!?

I'M AFRAID THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE. I USED UP EVERY OUNCE OF MY MOTIVATION TRYING TO GUESS WHAT THE EXAM QUESTIONS WOULD BE.

BUT YOU KNOW, THEY SAY HAVING COLD HANDS MEANS YOU HAVE A WARM HEART.
.....


MISS TSUMUGI —!?
ICE WATER

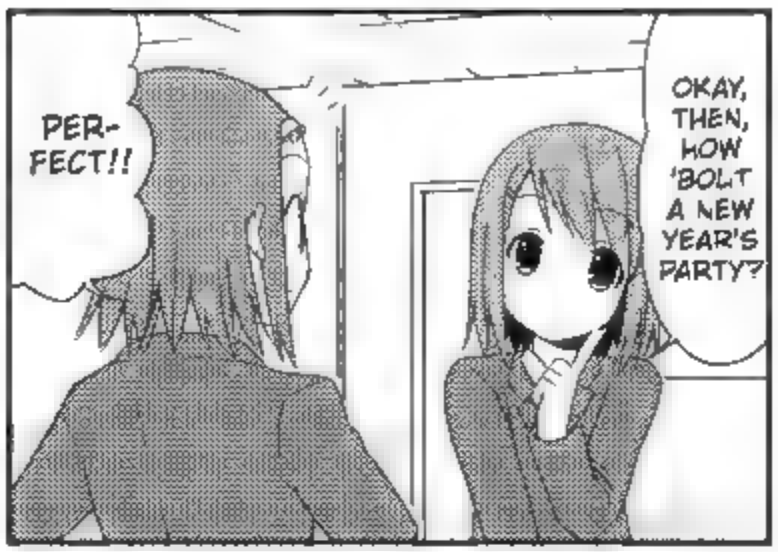
UM...I ACTUALLY HAVE OTHER PLANS FOR CHRIST-MAS...

ALLLL RIGHT! IT'S FINALLY WINTER BREAK ...!
AFTER THE SECOND-TERM CLOSING CEREMONY

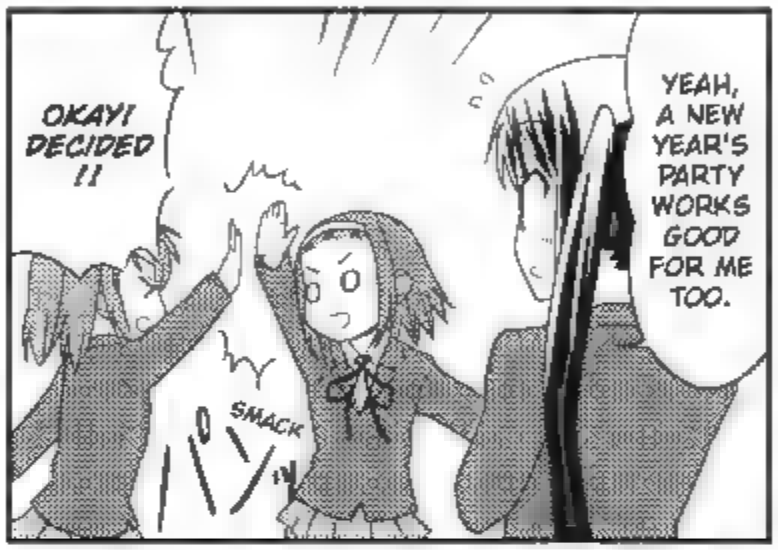
IT'S NOT A BOY-FRIEND —!!
I'M SPENDING CHRISTMAS WITH MY "FAMILY"
OH, WHAT I'D GIVE TO BE ONE OF THESE YOUNG GALS AGAIN
THAT MEANS "BOYFRIEND," DEARIE

OOH, GOOD IDEA! LET'S DO IT, LET'S DO IT!!
LET'S DO IT AT MY HOUSE AGAIN!
HEY, LET'S DO ANOTHER CHRISTMAS PARTY THIS YEAR!

PLANS FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE?
EH?


PER-FECT!!
OKAY, THEN, HOW 'BOUT A NEW YEAR'S PARTY?

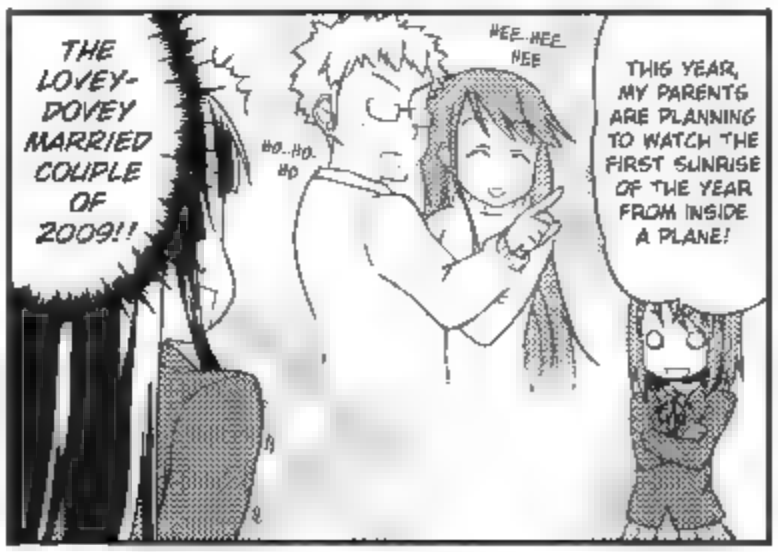
BESIDES, I DON'T WANNA CATCH HELL FROM HER LATER FOR NOT ASKING AT LEAST.
'COS WE'RE GONNA HAVE A NEW YEAR'S PARTY AT YUI'S PLACE. WANNA COME?
WHY DO YOU ASK, ALL OF A SUDDEN?


OKAY! DECIDED !!
SMACK
YEAH, A NEW YEAR'S PARTY WORKS GOOD FOR ME TOO.

SOMEONE MIGHT WANT TO TAKE ME OUT THAT NIGHT OR SOMETHING. ♡
GRR!
HMM... WELL... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY. I AM EXTREMELY BUSY WITH VARIOUS THINGS, YOU KNOW .

OH, IT'S FINE. TOTALLY FINE.
BUT I'M SURE A NEW YEAR'S PARTY WOULD DEFINITELY BE AN IMPOSITION ON YOUR FAMILY, WOULDN'T IT, YUI...?

NO, WAIT, I WAS LYING! I'VE GOT ZERO PLANS! I'LL COME! PLEASE LET ME COME!!
I SEE! OKAY, THEN. WE'LL JUST PUT YOU DOWN AS A "CAN'T MAKE IT"...


THE LOVEY-DOVEY MARRIED COUPLE OF 2009!!
HEE..HEE.. HEE
HO..HO.. HO
THIS YEAR, MY PARENTS ARE PLANNING TO WATCH THE FIRST SUNRISE OF THE YEAR FROM INSIDE A PLANE!

THIS YEAR YOU MADE A HOT POT —!!

WOW —!!

DECEMBER 31

WELCOME, EVERYONE.

THANKS FOR HAVING US!

WE HAVE NEW YEAR'S SOBA FOR EVERYONE TOO.

GULP

OOH... IT LOOKS SO GOOD ...

HI, AZUSA-CHAN ♡

MAN, IT'S REALLY COLD OUT THERE.

OH NO. IT'S NO TROUBLE AT ALL.

I FEEL BAD THAT WE'RE MAKING YOU DO THIS STUFF FOR US AGAIN...

IT SURE IS—!

HEH-HEH...A SLUMBER PARTY'S ALWAYS KINDA EXCITING, ISN'T IT?

SO YUMMY ♡

BESIDES, HAPPINESS FOR ME IS JUST GETTING TO SEE THAT EXPRESSION ON HER FACE.

YOU... YOU REALLY NEED TO MONITOR YOURSELF A LITTLE BETTER.

SHLURP

HEH-HEH. I'M NOT LETTING ANY OF YOU WUSSES GO TO SLEEP TONIGHT ...

UHHH

STAYING DRESSED AT ALL COSTS →

TA-DAA! IT'S A YEAR-OF-THE-TIGER COSTUME FOR NEXT YEAR'S CHINESE ZODIAC!

AAAA... ZUUUU... SAAA...

WHAT!?

.. BUT ACCORDING TO THE CHINESE ZODIAC, NEXT YEAR IS THE YEAR OF THE OX, RIGHT ...?

WHAAAAH!?

...CHAN!!

HUG

BUT...! SENSEI, YOU'RE A REALLY MEAN DRUNK!!

C'MON, C'MON

...OH WELL, NEVER MIND. C'MON, JUST WEAR THE DAMN OUTFIT AL-READY.

SO WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO TAKE MY CLOTHES OFF!?

I BROUGHT SOME-THING REALLY NEAT FOR YOU TODAY.

SO YOU'RE ACTING LIKE THIS SOBER!?

HUH? BUT ALL I'VE BEEN DRINKING IS THE SAME JUICE AS EVERY-ONE ELSE ...

YOU GUYS ARE JUST GONNA IGNORE ME——!?

FOCUSED ON EATING.

STOP HOLDING THE CHOPSTICKS IN YOUR MOUTH.

WAI— H-HELP MEEE...

OH, IT'S ALMOST TIME.

All right, folks! We're down to less than a minute before the turn of the new year.

EVERY-THING WAS SO GOOD!

AHH... WHAT A MEAL, WHAT A MEAL.

... AND, UH...

HEY EVERY-ONE, IT'S ALMOST THE NEW YEAR...

BY THE WAY, MUGI, WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE DOING SOMETHING ELSE OVER NEW YEAR'S?

I'M SO FULL.

KKNNNKKK

PSHHH

... THEY'RE ALL ASLEEP!!

...BUT THIS SEEMED MORE FUN, SO I DECIDED TO STAY BEHIND IN JAPAN, JUST ME.

YEAH. I WAS SUPPOSED TO GO TO NEW ZEALAND WITH MY FAMILY ...

LAZY NEW YEAR'S

OH... IT JUST TURNED.

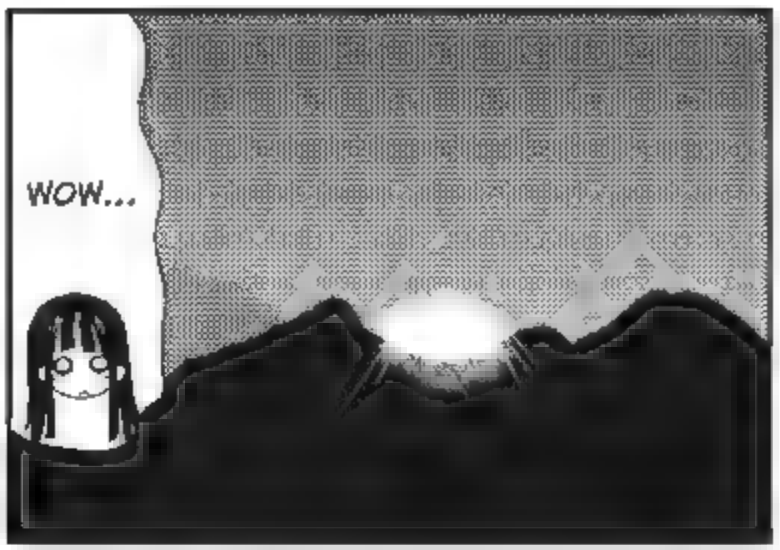
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERY ONE.

HEY— HOW CAN YOU GUYS SLEEP THROUGH THE CRUCIAL MOMENT !?

"IT'S SO WARM HERE UNDER THE HEATED TABLE"

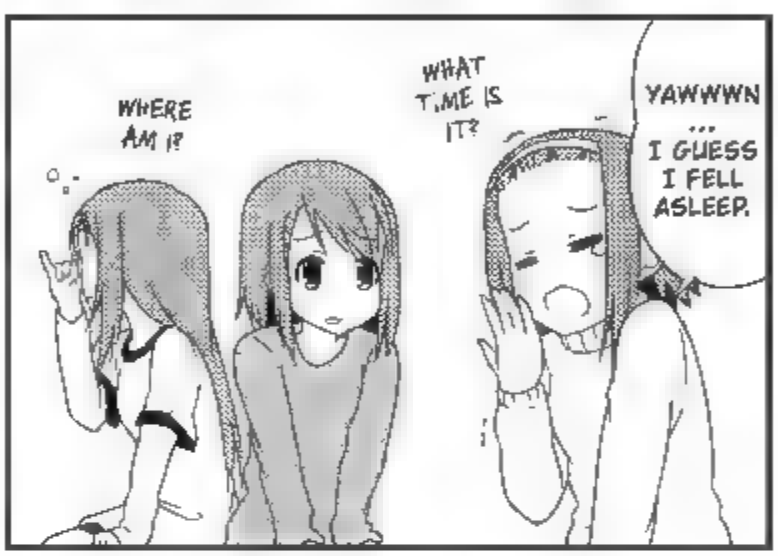
"NEW ZEALAND SHOULD WIN HANDS-DOWN"

IS THAT EVEN OKAY —!?


WOW...

C'MON, EVERY-ONE! WAKE UP!!
HM ...?
—KE UP.

SEE WHAT I MEAN? THIS IS A GREAT SPOT FOR WATCHING IT.
... IT'S REALLY PRET-TY...


WHERE AM I?
WHAT TIME IS IT?
YAWWWN ... I GUESS I FELL ASLEEP.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU.
WELL, THEN. I GUESS, UM... HAPPY NEW YEAR.

UMMM... I'M TIRED, SO I'M GONNA PASS...
LET'S GO SEE THE FIRST SUNRISE OF THE NEW YEAR! THE FIRST SUNRISE !!

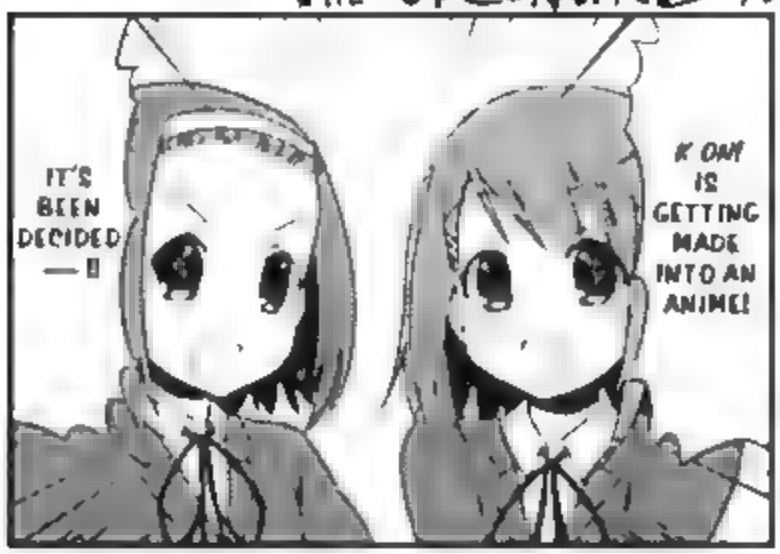
MYEOWH!?
FORGOT STILL HAD 'EM ON!!
.. BY THE WAY, AZU-MEOW, HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA KEEP THOSE EARS ON?

YOU'RE ONE TO TALK...
C'MON, YOU GUYS! HOW CAN YOU JUST SLEEP THROUGH THE FIRST SUNRISE !?

SCALE

WHUP.
LIKE THAT'S GONNA MAKE A DIFFER-ENCE.

BONUS CHAPTER COMMEMORATING THE UPCOMING ANIME ADAPTATION



THAT'S RIGHT. EVEN OUR PERFORMANCE SCENES ARE GONNA HAVE SOUND AND VOCALS NOW.
BEING IN AN ANIME MEANS WE'RE GONNA BE SPEAKING AND MOVING AROUND, RIGHT!!?

HOLD ON— YOU'VE BEEN SKIMPING ON THE SINGING?
BEING IN A MANGA, I NEVER HAD TO SING WHEN I WASN'T ON THE PAGE BECAUSE NO ONE COULD TELL THE DIFFERENCE ANYWAY. BUT IN THE ANIME I'M GONNA HAVE TO KEEP ON SINGING..

AH, SAWA-CHA—

YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULDN'T KEEP PICKING ON HER LIKE THAT

WHY WOULD I FLIP OUT?

NOW, MIO. YOU'RE NOT GONNA FLIP OUT LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO, ARE YOU?

OH, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL. THIS IS HOW I ALWAYS LOOK, YEAH?

キラ SPARKLE

キラ SPARKLE

WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH ALL THAT MAKEUP —!!?

THEY'RE GONNA BROADCAST SCENES OF YOU ALL DRESSED UP AND SINGING. YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?

BECAUSE THEY'RE PUBLIC AIR-WAVES.

ズ DRAG

ズ DRAG

TAKE HER AWAY !!

DON'T LOOK AT ME...!

♪

♪

BE SURE AND WATCH THE ANIME VERSION OF K-ON! ☆

AND DON'T FORGET TO READ THE MANGA TOO. ☆

ギャー ARGUING ギャー

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA!? THE SHOW NEEDS SOME ADULT SEX APPEAL TOO, YOU KNOW!!

THIS FROM SOMEONE WHO'S MORE ABOUT STOMACH APPEAL THAN SEX APPEAL!!

I TOTALLY KNEW THAT'S WHAT YOU'D SAY, MIO.

I... I WON'T BE IN THE ANIME!!

I THOUGHT UP AN AUTO-GRAPH FOR MY-SELF!!

HEY GUYS! LOOK! LOOK!

...WHAT-EVER. WILL YOU JUST SHOW US?

AFTER ALL, THEY ARE GONNA BE MAKING *K-ON!* INTO AN ANIME!

バーン

DUH-DUH-DUUUN

ひらさわ ゆい

HIRASAWA YUI

TA-DAAA!!

I THINK WE'LL LIVE!!

SHALL I GIVE YOU GUYS MY AUTOGRAPH? RIGHT NOW I'LL DO IT FOR FREE.

I REALLY WISH SHE'D PRACTICE GUITAR INSTEAD OF DOING STUFF LIKE THIS.

AHHH... IT'S A REAL ORIGINAL AUTO-GRAPH, ALL RIGHT...

UM, YEAH... AUTO-GRAPHS, HUH...?

LOOK, I BROUGHT A WHOLE BUNCH OF COLORED PAPER WITH ME.

HOW 'BOUT YOU GUYS ALL THINK UP AUTO-GRAPHS FOR YOUR-SELVES TOO.

I CAN'T REALLY THINK OF ANYTHING ...

中野梓 NAKA NO AZUSA

琴吹紬 KOTO BUKI TSUMUGI

THIS IS REALLY HARD...!

Ritsu Tainaka

IT'S NO USE— I JUST HAVE NO EYE FOR STUFF LIKE THIS.

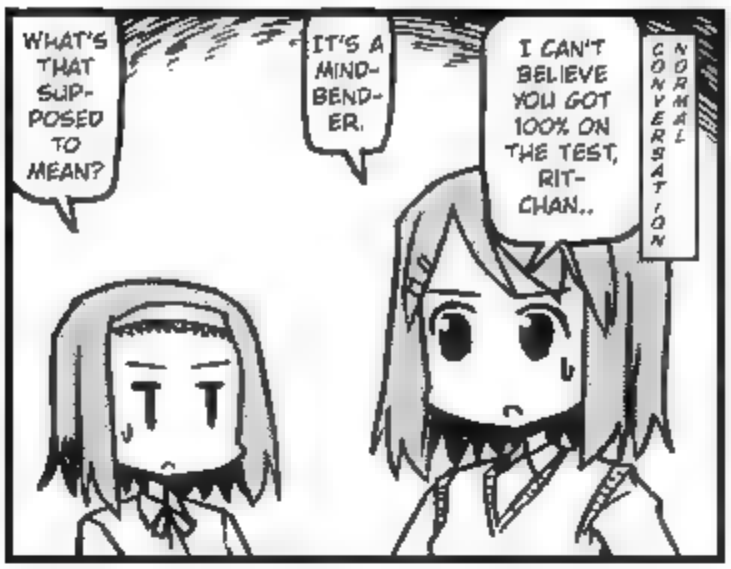
WHOA! THAT LOOKS ALMOST PROFES-SIONAL!!

TA-DAA

HERE— I WAS ABLE TO DO ONE.

YEAH, RIGHT. YOU TOTALLY PRACTICED THIS BEFORE-HAND, DIDN'T YOU?

I...I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU EXPECT ME TO JUST COME UP WITH SOME-THING ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT...



MUSICIAN STYLE CONVERSATION
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GOT 100% ON THE TEST, RIT-CHAN .
IT'S LIKE MY FEND-ER.
WHAT'S THAT SUP-POSED TO MEAN?

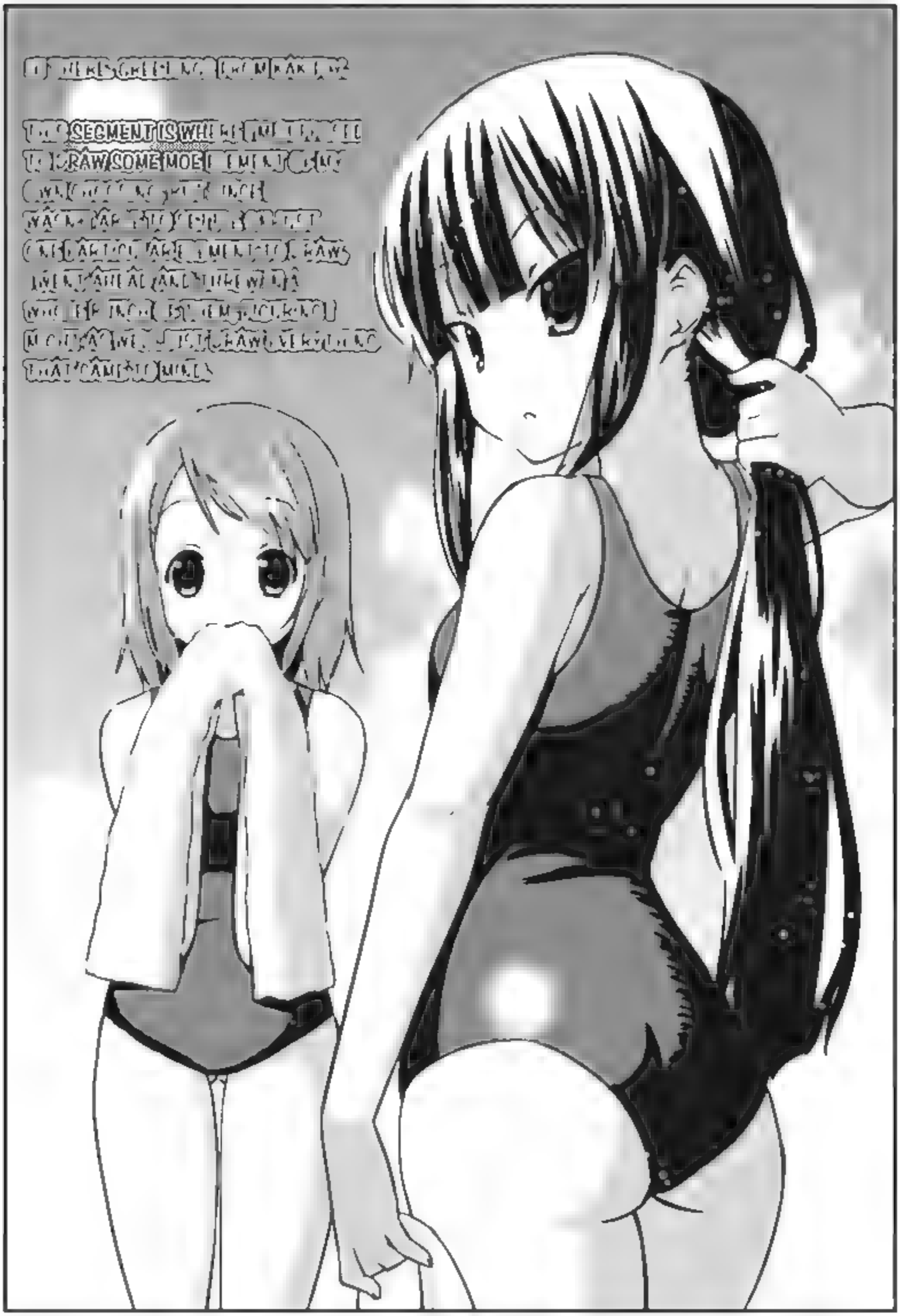
K-ON!

CONGRATULATIONS ON *K-ON!* GETTING MADE INTO AN ANIME! I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YUI AND HER FRIENDS MOVING AROUND ON SCREEN

–DAIOKI

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SECOND VOLUME GOING ON SALE AND ON THE ANIME ADAPTATION!!

BONUS PAGE



(ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN THE RELAY ESSAY "MY PRIVATE D V" IN THE JUNE 2008 ISSUE OF MANGA TIME KIRARA.)

HELLO, MY NAME IS KAKIFLY. WE'RE ON THE SECOND VOLUME. THAT'S CRAZY. AND ON TOP OF THAT, THERE'S THE FACT THAT THE SERIES HAS BEEN LICENSED FOR AN ANIME ADAPTATION. WITH ALL THIS GOING ON, IT FEELS LIKE I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT'S WHAT ANYMORE. BUT ALL OF IT'S THANKS TO YOU, THE ONES WHO'VE BEEN SUPPORTING ME BY READING *K-ON!* I HONESTLY CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH. TRULY, THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART! AND IF YOU COULD ALL PLEASE CONTINUE TO WAIT PATIENTLY FOR THE RELEASE OF THE THIRD VOLUME OF THE SERIES, NOTHING WOULD MAKE ME HAPPIER.

ALSO, I'D LIKE TO THANK MY GUEST ARTISTS DAIOKI, WHO KINDLY AGREED TO DRAW A BONUS MANGA PAGE FOR THIS VOLUME TOO, AND MIKAMI AS WELL. TO BOTH OF YOU, THANK YOU SO, SO MUCH!!!

KAKIFLY

PEOPLE WHO'VE BEEN
A BIG HELP TO ME:

MY EDITOR, "S-HARA"

DAIOKI
MIKAMI

ALL THE BRAINY PEOPLE

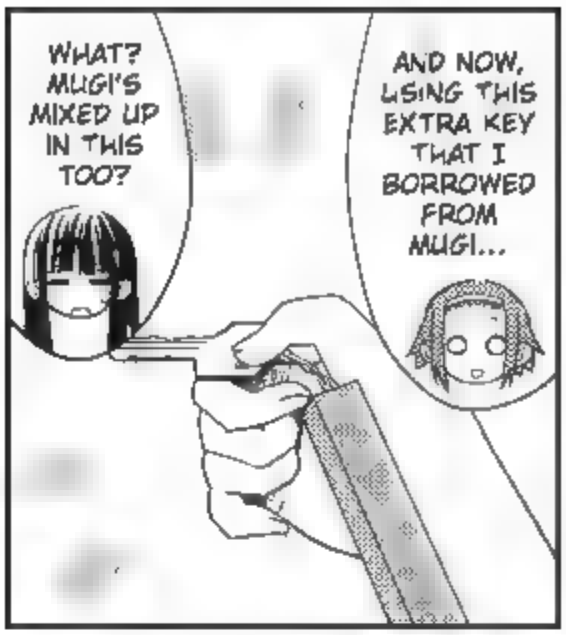
AND FOR GUIDANCE ON MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, MORIYA

THANKS!

kakifly

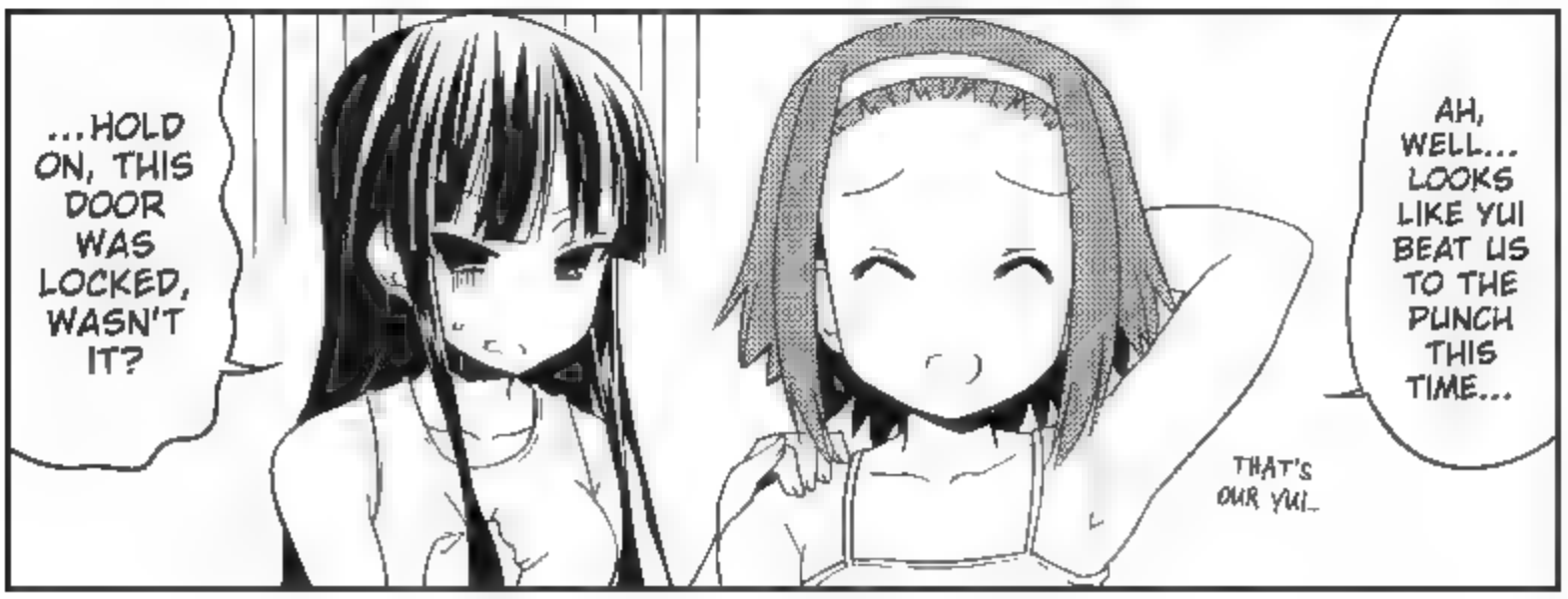
COMMENTS

Hi, my name is kakifly I am now able to eat oysters Thank you so much for buying my manga


WHAT? MUGI'S MIXED UP IN THIS TOO?
AND NOW, USING THIS EXTRA KEY THAT I BORROWED FROM MUGI...

AT THE MOMENT, WE'RE STANDING RIGHT OUTSIDE AZUSA NAKANO'S BED-ROOM!
HOW COME I HAVE TO BE UP FOR THIS...?
AND NOW IT'S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL SUMMER CLUB TRIP'S CUSTOMARY "LET'S SNAP A PHOTO OF YOU WHILE YOU'RE SLEEPING☆" EVENT!

NMMM...
NMMM...
COMING ////IN...
SZZZ
HUH?


...HOLD ON, THIS DOOR WAS LOCKED, WASN'T IT?
AH, WELL... LOOKS LIKE YUI BEAT US TO THE PUNCH THIS TIME...
THAT'S OUR YUI...

I WANNA TRY AND CATCH A GLIMPSE OF HER AS SHE'S MOVING THEM.

...IS THAT MUGI-CHAN'S EYE-BROWS ARE ACTU-ALLY TAKUAN PICK-LES.

THE STORY SO FAR...

JUST KEEP STAR-ING

. . . .

HERE'S SOME CAKE

BUT LATELY SOME-THING HAS BEEN BOTH-ERING ME ABOUT THAT.

HUH?

OH LOOK!

NO FIGHTING, YOU GUYS...

ポカ POW

ポク POW

AAAH!!

HOW THE HECK DO YOU SUP-POSE SHE MOVES THEM ...?

HEE HEE HEE

around from room to room and participate in different class groupings like U.S. students do. Instead, they belong to a fixed "cohort" (*kumi*) that stays grouped in the same room a l year, and teachers for each subject visit the room during the appropriate times.

PAGE 12
Mio's Song Titles
All of these songs were actually created and performed for the anime version of *K-ON!*, released on a soundtrack album titled *Hokago Tea Time* (Afterschool Tea Time).
Musically speaking, the arrangements are punk-pop in flavor, with all instruments prominent in the mix

PAGE 13
Yen Conversion
A general rule of thumb to use for converting Japanese yen to American dollars is ¥100 to 1 USD.

PAGE 14
Simple, Easy Music
The name of the club literally means "light music" (see *K-ON!* note above), which Yui initially interpreted as "easy music" because of the dual meaning of the prefix *kei–* (used in this context to contrast more traditional/ classical music, not ease of playing)

PAGE 17
Blood Type
Asking someone's blood type in Japan is akin to asking about astrological signs in the U.S. The notion that personality is in some way determined by blood type has no scientific basis and is generally dismissed outside of Japan, but within Japan it's a popular belief that knowing someone's blood type gives one some insight into their attitude and behavior. The main personality types are:

Type O = outgoing social butterfly with a flexible outlook on life
Type A = high-strung perfectionist with strong artistic tendencies
Type B = easygoing individualist with a pragmatic, goal-oriented attitude
Type AB = unpredictable loose cannon with both artistic and pragmatic aspects

PAGE 27
"Nice try!!"
The joke here is based on a word pun: the Japanese word *oishii* (tasty) sounds similar to *oshii* (close, but no cigar).

PAGE 38
The Role of the Senpai
Traditionally in Japan, seniority takes precedence over ability in the assignment of leadership roles. It would've been impertinent for Azusa to suggest herself for the role of lead guitarist, even if she is the better player, and that's why she defers to Yui. However, leaders are also expected to show wisdom in judgment, so it seems a little arrogant of Yui to assert herself as lead guitarist when Azusa is the logical choice. In a "proper" interaction of this type, Azusa should immediately defer to Yui (which she does), and then Yui should display magnanimity by insisting that Azusa is the better choice (after which Azusa would offer a few token protests and then "reluctantly" accept the role).

PAGE 42
Lunchtime
Some Japanese high schools have central cafeterias (or a repurposed gymnasium), but quite a few don't. Even when the school does have a cafeteria, many students choose to eat lunch in their homeroom anyway.

PAGE 47
Mio-shan
–shan is just a cutesy variation of *–san* that expresses the intimacy of *–chan* without any of the condescension. The emotion being conveyed is sort of like "I'm not worthy of your friendship."

PAGE 48
"You must be tired."
The Japanese phrase "Otsukare-sama desu" (literally "You must be tired") is also a standard way of telling someone that you appreciate the work they've done.

PAGE 59
Yui's Constant Hugging
The Japanese word is *sukinshippu*, literally "skinship." Although originally used to

TRANSLATION NOTES

COMMON HONORIFICS

no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

***-san*:** The Japanese equivalent of Mr /Mrs./ Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.

***-sama*:** Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.

***-kun*:** Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.

***-chan*:** An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.

***-senpai*:** Used to address upperclassmen or more experienced coworkers.

***-sensei*:** A respectful term for teachers, artists, or high-level professionals.

K-ON!

The title *K-ON!* comes from the Japanese word *"kei-ongaku,"* meaning "light music" in the sense of casual or easy listening (i e., not serious or innovative as in serious classical or jazz). In the context of school clubs in Japan, the term *"kei-ongaku-bu"* ("light music club") usually contrasts with *"ongaku-bu"* ("music club") in that it focuses on popular forms of music (pop, rock, folk, etc.) where the latter focuses on symphonic and choral forms.

kakifly

The author's name, "kakifly," comes from the Japanese word *"kaki furai,"* meaning "fried oysters." It seems to be a running joke, as the author comments for this and future volumes reference his feelings toward oysters

PAGE 2

Yui Hirasawa

Yui's last name is an allusion to Susumu Hirasawa, founder and former guitarist for the now-defunct Japanese techno band P-Model. Her first name means "only."

Mio Akiyama

Mio's last name is an allusion to Katsuhiko Akiyama, former bassist for P-Model. Her first name means "wake (of waves)."

Ritsu Tainaka

Ritsu's last name is an allusion to Sadatoshi Tainaka, former drummer for P-Model. Her first name means "meter (of rhythm)."

Tsumugi Kotobuki

Tsumugi's last name is an allusion to Hikaru Kotobuki, former keyboardist for P-Model. Her first name means "woven (silk) cloth."

Azusa Nakano

Azusa's last name is an allusion to Teruo Nakano, former bassist for P-Model. Her first name means "Japanese cherry birch."

Ui Hirasawa

Ui's first name means "gloomy/vexing."

Sawako Yamanaka

Sawako's first and last names are an a lusion to Sawao Yamanoka, vocalist and rhythm guitarist for the Japanese alternative rock band The Pillows

Nodoka Manabe

Nodoka's last name is an a lusion to Yoshiaki Manabe, lead guitarist for The Pillows. Her first name means "serene."

PAGE 6

School Clubs

Participating in after-school clubs is a very big deal in Japanese high schools, as it's one of the only chances for students to interact outside of their fixed class groups

PAGE 9

Japanese School Terms

The Japanese school year is divided into three terms: the first starts in early April and ends in mid July; the second begins in late August or early September and ends in late December; the third begins in early January and ends in late March.

Class Assignments

Japanese high school students don't move

PAGE 83

Azusa the Number Two

"The Number Two" (*ni-go*) is also a Japanese euphemism for "mistress" (i.e., one's "number two" gal), so the nickname sounds a bit sillier/cuter in Japanese than it does in English.

PAGE 84

Sneezing

Another common Japanese folk belief holds that sneezes are caused by people talking about you behind your back.

PAGE 95

One of These

Yui refers to Tsumugi as a household appliance using a quirk of Japanese grammar: when objects (nouns) are counted in Japanese, the nouns have to be marked with special particles indicating what type of object they refer to. Some examples are *ni-hiki* (two animals), *ni-mai* (two flat things), *ni-hon* (two long, skinny things) etc. In this case Yui says she wants *ichi-dai* (one appliance) of Tsumugi.

PAGE 105

Hot pot

A hot pot (*nabe*) is a hearty soup that's cooked and shared by all at the table. The ingredients can vary considerably, but usually it's a soy/miso-flavored broth containing meat, wild mushrooms, tofu, bok choy, scallions, and thick noodles.

New Year's Soba

New Year's *soba* (*toshikoshi soba*, literally "year-spanning soba") is a simple noodle dish eaten on New Year's Eve. The long *soba* (buckwheat) noodles represent long life, and according to tradition, everyone has to finish their noodles completely by the time the new year rolls around.

PAGE 106

Chopsticks Etiquette

Holding chopsticks in your mouth (*kuwae-bashi*) is seen as bad manners in Japan.

PAGE 107

Kotatsu

The "heated table" is a typical piece of furniture in Japanese sitting rooms. It's a small coffee table with a space heater mounted to the underside of the horizontal surface and quilted material draped around the sides to trap the heat in the space underneath. When people sit at the table, they place their legs inside the heated space to keep warm. Sitting around the heated table eating tangerines and other winter foods is a stereotypical winter scene in Japan.

PAGE 112

Stomach Appeal

The phrase Ritsu uses, "*iroke yori kuike*" (literally "food over sex"), is something of an idiomatic expression in Japanese, made pithy by the symmetry between the words "*iroke*" (sex appeal) and "*kuike*" (eating appeal).

PAGE 115

Musical Instruments

The humor of this page comes from a bunch of puns based on the brand names of musical instrument makers: "*hen da*" (it's weird) becomes "Fender" (*fendaa*), a guitar and bass brand; "*tamatama*" (just a fluke) becomes *tama* + "Tama," a drum brand; and "*soo nanda*" (is that so) becomes "Roland" (*roorando*), a keyboard brand.

describe the necessary physical intimacy between a parent and child, now it generally refers to physical contact between close friends (especially but not exclusively same-sex friends), engaged in for the purpose of friendship bonding, and sometimes as "practice" for later sexual relationships or even as an outright sexual act of its own. While hugging, friendly touching, and even kissing is practiced and accepted to varying degrees in many Western countries, the Japanese practice of "skinship" is sometimes taken to a level that many Westerners would regard as sexually intimate, although in Japan it's seen as a normal, healthy personal exchange between friends and often (as in this case with Yui toward Azusa) carries no explicit sexual overtones.

PAGE 64

Intonation

In musical terms, the intonation (called "octave tuning" in Japanese) of an instrument describes the degree to which the notes sound at the correct pitch (i.e., "in tune") independent of the player. In this case, warping of the neck of Yui's guitar has caused an effective shortening of the open string so that an open note now sounds a little too high compared to the same note played on the neck of the guitar. A problem like this is usually easily remedied by replacing the strings and making small adjustments to the action (height) and bridge (length) of each string until open notes match the fretted notes.

PAGE 68

"Miss" Tsumugi

The saleswoman in the music store refers to Tsumugi ("Tsumugi-*ojousama*") in the same obsequious way her butler does because Tsumugi's family owns the music store, making the saleswoman feel like an employee of the whole Kotobuki family, including Tsumugi herself.

PAGE 70

Gui-Ta

Yui's pet name for her guitar. Several Japanese male names end in –*ta* (Kenta, Kota, Ryota, etc.), so the name indicates that she thinks of her guitar as male. It's also an obvious pun on the Japanese pronunciation of "guitar" = "*gitaa.*"

PAGE 72

Nosebleed

It's a common manga trope that young innocents get nosebleeds when they're exposed to an explicit sexual scene, presumably as a symbol of their sexual arousal.

PAGE 73

The Girlz

In Japanese, Ritsu says *onna-gumi* ("girl group"), but it's written in a way that makes it look tough, like the name of a yakuza crew. (Yakuza gang names generally end in *–gumi*; e.g., Yamaguchi-gumi etc.)

PAGE 74

The Recharge Round

Ritsu feels that Tsumugi's band name suggestion of "*Juden Kikan*" (literally "recharge period") would jinx the band because it implies that they're going to need to take time away from band activities to "recharge" (commonly used in Japan as a euphemism for recovering from a bad experience).

PAGE 76

Yukata

A lightweight cotton robe worn in casual situations (such as for shrine visits, cherry blossom viewings, or festivals) in the heat of summer, or around the house after the customary evening bath at any time of year.

PAGE 80

Colds

There's a Japanese folk superstition that says you can get rid of a cold by giving it to someone else.

"Who will face me!?"

Ritsu is using an archaic phrase from samurai times for humorous effect. According to tradition, when a samurai would visit another family's home turf, he would announce the visit by shouting out "I would ask this of you!" (*Tanomou!*), which in many cases was intended as a challenge to duel.

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K-ON! ②

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